

Notice under paragraph 2 of schedule 6A of the Competition Act 1998 of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority's proposal to accept commitments pursuant to section 31A(2) of the Competition Act 1998.

1. Introduction

1.1. The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ('the Authority')¹ is proposing to close its investigation into SP Manweb plc (SP Manweb) in the market for the supply of electricity connection services by accepting commitments pursuant to section 31A(2) of the Competition Act 1998 ('CA98'). The Authority invites interested parties to make written representations on its proposal and the commitments contained in Annex 1 of this Notice.²

2. Ofgem's Investigation

2.1. In October 2002, the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem)³ received a complaint from an independent connections provider (ICP) alleging that SP Manweb, which is wholly owned by Scottish Power UK plc Group, had engaged in anti-competitive behaviour when providing non-contestable electricity connection services.⁴

2.2. The complainant alleged that SP Manweb had engaged in anti-competitive behaviour in relation to its treatment of requests for non-contestable services from the complainant compared with the services provided by SP Manweb to Core Utility Solutions Limited (Core), a connections provider which is affiliated with and partly owned by the Scottish Power UK plc Group. Specific concerns raised with Ofgem relate to delays by SP Manweb in the provision of point of connection information (POC), delays by SP Manweb in the carrying out of works associated with connections onto the existing electricity network, delays in the provision by SP Manweb of design approval for connections and discrimination by SP Manweb in its process for handling requests for information from ICPs unaffiliated with the Scottish Power UK plc Group.

2.3. As a result of allegations made by the complainant and information provided informally by SP Manweb and the complainant, the Authority in August 2004 decided that there were reasonable grounds for suspecting an infringement of the Chapter II prohibition⁵ of the Competition Act 1998 ('CA98'). As a consequence, Ofgem, on behalf of the Authority, commenced an investigation into SP Manweb's conduct.

2.4 On 25 October 2004, Ofgem wrote to SP Manweb to notify it that Ofgem was conducting an investigation and to outline its concerns in relation to SP Manweb's conduct. In November 2004, SP Manweb met with Ofgem to discuss the processes it had put in place

¹ The Authority has concurrent powers with the Office of Fair Trading to apply and enforce the Chapter I and II prohibitions of the CA98 and Articles 81 and 82 of the EC Treaty, in relation to the gas and electricity sector in Great Britain.

² This Notice is in accordance with paragraph 2 of schedule 6A of the Competition Act 1998

³ Ofgem exercises certain functions under the CA98 on behalf of the Authority in accordance with the Authority's Rules of Procedure.

⁴ Non-contestable services are those that the ICP must obtain in order to bid for a connections contract or to provide connections work where the contract is awarded to them. 'Non-contestable services' are defined in paragraph 3.8 of this Notice.

⁵ After examining the information available, the Authority concluded that the alleged conduct is unlikely have an effect on trade between Member States. Therefore it was not necessary for the Authority to apply Article 82 of the EC Treaty. The Authority will assess whether conduct or an agreement has an effect on Trade between Member States on a case-by-case basis, and may, therefore, reach a different conclusion in relation to alleged conduct of DNOs in future cases.

for the provision of non-contestable connections services. At the meeting SP Manweb indicated that it wished to make proposals to address Ofgem's competition concerns and advised that it would submit these proposals to Ofgem during December 2004.

2.5. In December 2004, SP Manweb wrote to Ofgem offering to provide commitments to alter its conduct, and thereby address Ofgem's competition concerns.

2.6. After carefully considering the guidance issued by the Office of Fair Trading⁶, Ofgem decided that it was appropriate to enter into discussions with SP Manweb on its offer of commitments. In February 2005, Ofgem wrote to SP Manweb acknowledging its willingness to explore any formally binding commitments that SP Manweb wished to offer. In order to aid discussions, Ofgem sent SP Manweb a statement of its initial competition concerns (the contents of this document mirrors the information contained in section 5 below).

2.7. Following discussions between Ofgem and SP Manweb, SP Manweb sent a finalised set of commitments to Ofgem on 8 June 2005 in the form set out in Annex 1.

2.8. Having considered the commitments offered by SP Manweb, the Authority has reached a preliminary view that the commitments offered by SP Manweb address its competition concerns, for the reasons set out in this Notice. The Authority is therefore proposing to exercise its discretion to close its investigation by way of a formal decision accepting the commitments.

⁶ The guidance approved by the Secretary of State on 21 December 2004 titled 'The OFT's guidance as to the circumstances in which it may be appropriate to accept commitments'. This guidance is contained in the annex of the competition law guideline: *Enforcement*, OFT 407, 21 December 2004.

3. The Regulatory Framework

3.1 Section 4 of the Electricity Act 1989 ('the Electricity Act') prohibits the distribution of electricity by a person unless they are authorised to do so by a licence or are exempt from the requirement to have a licence. SP Manweb is licensed by the Authority under section 6 of the Electricity Act to distribute electricity on behalf of suppliers and generators throughout Great Britain and has specific obligations within its Distribution Service Area ('DSA'). Holders of such licences are referred to as Distribution Network Operators ('DNOs').

3.2 The Electricity Act imposes a duty on DNOs to provide connections to their distribution systems⁷. Subject to certain exceptions (such as where breaches in safety may occur), a DNO has a duty to offer terms for the provision of a connection between its distribution system and any premises, or between its distribution system and another distribution system. The obligation relates to the provision of a complete connection between the licensee's network and the customer's premises: it does not refer to the provision of part of a connection or to the inputs necessary to design a new connection. This obligation applies to DNOs within their respective distribution service areas (DSA). Ofgem has issued directions to each DNO to specify their DSA, which correspond to the areas for which each of the Public Electricity Suppliers (PES) had licences (prior to the introduction of competition).

3.3 There is no regulatory provision prescribing the timing of the provision of information which is used to design a connection.

Description of a connection

3.4 A connection is a physical extension of the distribution system which is required to connect a premise to an electricity distribution system. A distribution system is "... a system which consists (wholly or mainly) of low voltage lines and electrical plant and is used for conveying electricity to any premises or to any other distribution system" (see section 4(4) of the Electricity Act).

Types of Connections

3.5 Connections can be grouped into four broad categories:

- *Industrial and commercial*: includes retail parks and industrial premises such as manufacturing plants;
- *Housing*: includes connections to single domestic premises, as well as to housing developments;
- *Un-metered services*: includes supplies to street furniture such as street lights; and
- *Generation*: where an electricity generator (such as a wind farm or a fossil-fuelled power unit) is connected onto the distribution system.

Obtaining a connection

3.6 An end customer (such as a housing developer) requiring a connection to the distribution system has two options:

- it can ask the DNO to carry out the connection; or

⁷ Electricity Act 1989 section 16(1).

- it can ask an ICP, approved by the DNO or Lloyds Register⁸ to provide connection services within the DSA, to carry out the connection. In this situation the ICP will need to procure certain connection services from the DNO; these services are termed 'non-contestable'.

3.7 A customer seeking a connection to the distribution system, for example for a new housing development, will usually seek a quote for the cost of the connection from the DNO and at least one other company providing connections services such as an ICP.

3.8 To provide a quotation for a connection and if awarded the contract to provide the electricity connection, the ICP requires certain services from the Distribution Network Operator (DNO). Whilst there is no statutory or other definition of those services which only the DNO can provide, DNOs classify the different parts of this work as "non-contestable". The ICP or end customer must procure these non-contestable services from the DNO, as only the DNO can provide these. These non-contestable services (point of connection information, design services, and connections to the distribution system) are described below.

Point of connection (POC) information

3.9 POC is defined as the point at which an extension for a new load or generation connection can be connected to the existing electricity distribution network. POC information is any information that describes the POC in terms of its technical and physical characteristics, parameters and geographic location.

3.10 Determining POC information involves:

- assessing the location, type and size of the new load to be connected to the network; and
- assessing the available capacity on the existing distribution system to identify the most appropriate point of connection. This entails:
 - identifying the location and voltage level of the existing network;
 - analysing the network, including calculating the thermal and voltage drop;
 - for larger loads, assessing fault levels, effects on the quality of supply to other connected customers and implications for the overall design of the network (calculations for Low Voltage (LV) connections are less detailed as design standards provide for less detailed fault level assessment).

3.11 POC information is an important input to the calculation of the cost of providing a connection. This cost forms the basis upon which a connection provider will provide a quote to a potential customer. Connection providers can, in theory, provide quotes to developers without POC information, or with estimates obtained from other sources, however, they are unlikely to do so. This is because POC information will identify if there are reinforcement works associated with a particular POC and other important design inputs which need to be considered, for example whether the connection is to a High Voltage (HV) or Low Voltage (LV) system. Connection providers need to know

⁸ Lloyds Register is the body that undertakes assessment of contractors wishing to be approved for national accreditation for contestable works associated with the installation of electrical connections on green field housing estates.

where the POC is and its voltage. If it is a HV POC for a domestic development then a substation will need to be built into the design and the cost added to the electricity connection charge.

3.12 If the POC on which the quote is based is different from that ultimately designated by the DNO, the connections provider is likely to have his design rejected by the DNO and may be unable to provide a connection within the amount quoted. POC information is only valid for 28 days, reflecting the constantly changing structure of the distribution network.

Design approval

3.13 Section 9(1)(a) of the Electricity Act requires a DNO to maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity distribution. To comply with this duty, the DNO must be satisfied as to the suitability of new connections to its network. The DNOs have adopted the practice of requiring designs by ICPs to be submitted so that they can be checked. The DNO will then notify the ICP as to whether their design is approved so that the ICP may proceed with the proposed connection. Where the ICP has appropriate accreditation from Lloyds Register this process will generally be less involved than if the ICP has no accreditation⁹. All DNOs make available to ICPs, by way of the ENA G81 document¹⁰, the necessary technical specifications to enable the ICP to prepare an appropriate design. In instances where a DNO rejects an ICP design the DNO is required, under the terms of the process agreed by the Ofgem Electricity Connections Steering Group (ECSG), to explain the reasons for the refusal.

Connections to the distribution network

3.14. The connection of a new development to the electricity distribution network is work that can only be undertaken by the DNO, in this case SP Manweb. However, all DNOs have agreed to comply with Ofgem's November 2004 decision document "Competition in Connections to Electricity Distribution Systems Part A". This recommended that DNOs allow ICPs to carry out the connection of individual services to newly laid mains cables (including live mains cables) on new housing estate developments. Some licensees, including SP Manweb, are operating trials to allow live jointing, which is the activity whereby a service cable is connected to an energised (live) cable, to be performed by ICPs. Other DNOs have committed to commence trials during the course of 2005. The DNOs reserve the right to withdraw permission for ICPs to conduct live jointing if they consider that the ICP is unfit to do such works.

3.15 An ICP will only require SP Manweb to perform the "**initial make live**" connection to the electricity network where it is qualified and intends to perform its own low voltage live jointing works.

3.16 An ICP will require SP Manweb to perform both a "**initial make live**" connection and "**subsequent make live**" where it is not qualified or is unwilling to perform live

⁹ The Lloyds Register operates an independent registration scheme which assesses the competence of ICPs to undertake connections work. [Ofgem's Electricity Connections Steering Group (ECSG) encouraged the development of the registration scheme by Lloyds Register.

¹⁰ The ECSG encouraged the development of the G81 document as a means to facilitate competition in connections. The Energy Networks Association maintains and makes available the G81 document on their website: www.energynetworks.org.uk.

jointing works. Where, after carrying out an initial make live connection, SP Manweb provides the live jointing works, this is known as the “**subsequent make live**”.

4. The Parties

SP Manweb plc / SP Power Systems Limited

4.1. SP Manweb plc (company number: 02366937) is a company incorporated in the United Kingdom whose registered address is 3 Prenton Way, Prenton, CH43 3ET. It is wholly owned by the Scottish Power UK plc Group (company number: SC117120) whose registered address is 1, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow, G2 8SP.

4.2 SP Manweb is the holder of a license, granted by the Authority under section 6 of the Electricity Act, which permits it to distribute electricity in the area described by its licence. This authorised area includes North Wales and the cities of Liverpool, Chester and Wrexham.¹¹

4.3 As an electricity distribution network operator (DNO), SP Manweb provides to ICPs a range of services including non contestable connection services. These non-contestable connection services include point of connection information, design approval and work associated with final connections. SP Manweb sub-contracts the day to day operation of its distribution business to SP Power Systems Limited who performs all work on behalf of SP Manweb. SP Power Systems Limited (company number: SC215841) is wholly owned by Scottish Power UK plc Group.

4.4 SP Power Systems Ltd (SPPS) is a member of the Scottish Power UK plc Group. SPPS provides asset management and operational services to SP Manweb under a contract effective from 1 October 2001. The arrangements were put in place with a regulatory consent given to the contracting arrangements pursuant to standard condition 29 of the SP Manweb Distribution Licence from the Gas & Electricity Markets Authority, effective from 1 October 2001. The services provided by SPPS to SP Manweb include services in relation to connections and other general asset management and operational services. For example, the day to day operation of the SP Manweb distribution system is carried out by SPPS on behalf of SP Manweb.

Core Utility Solutions Limited

4.5. At the time of Ofgem's investigation into the conduct of SP Manweb, Core Utility Solutions Limited (Core) was a connections provider which was affiliated with and partly owned by the Scottish Power UK plc Group. Core (company number: 04290066) is a company incorporated in the United Kingdom whose registered address is 3 Prenton Way, Prenton, CH43 3ET.

4.6. Core was formed in 2001 as a joint venture company between Alfred McAlpine plc (company number: 01367044) and SP Power Systems Limited. At the time of the investigation, SP Power Systems Limited held the majority of voting shares in Core.

4.7 SPPS has sub-contracted certain services to Core specifically in respect of delivery of certain connection services including the delivery of licensed connection projects and certain other non-contestable services as described in section 3.

¹¹ Public Electricity Supply Licence for Manweb plc issued 26 March 1990.

5. The Authority's competition concerns

5.1. SP Manweb, as the DNO of the geographical area described by its licence, is the only provider of non-contestable connection services such as point of connection information and design approval in its distribution service area. The provision of POC information, design approval and work associated with final connections are all services required from SP Manweb for ICPs to compete in the connection's market in the relevant distribution area and cannot be interchanged with equivalent services provided by other DNOs. Since non-contestable services from other DNOs are not substitutable with those provided by the DNO in the relevant area, it is the Authority's view that the relevant geographical scope of the market is SP Manweb's DSA. As SP Manweb is the monopoly supplier of non-contestable connection services, it is the Authority's preliminary view that SP Manweb is dominant in the market for the provision of non-contestable connection services to ICPs in the SP Manweb DSA. The Authority is concerned that SP Manweb's conduct in this market has materially affected the related and closely associated market for the provision of electricity connections services.

5.2 The Authority will assess the relevant market on a case-by-case basis and therefore may reach a different view when assessing allegations of anti-competitive conduct by DNOs in future cases.

5.3 As explained in section 3, ICPs compete to provide end users (e.g. building developers) with connection services to the electricity network. To provide connection services, ICPs require certain non-contestable services from the DNO. The particular DNO service that will be required depends on the stage of the connection process. For example, at the initial stage ICPs require information about the point of connection and at the design approval stage ICPs will require the DNO to approve their connection design. Without specific point of connection information, an ICP may have difficulty in providing a quote for a development and without the DNO's design approval an ICP cannot commence on-site work to enable the customer to be connected to the DNO's DSA.

5.4 The Authority has identified the following practices which give rise to competition concerns relating to SP Manweb's alleged conduct in providing non-contestable connections services:

Point of Connection information

- (a) Delays with the provision of point of connection (POC) information by SP Manweb to ICPs, in circumstances where either delays were not experienced by Core or where Core was able to determine POC information without recourse to SP Manweb;
- (b) Inadequate and/or inaccurate POC information provided to ICPs, in circumstances where either Core were provided with more accurate POC information or were able to determine POC without recourse to SP Manweb;

Design approval

- (c) Delays in the provision by SP Manweb of design approval to ICPs, in circumstances where these delays were not experienced by Core; and

Work associated with connections to the distribution network

- (d) Delays in the carrying out of works associated with connections to the distribution network for ICPs, in circumstances where either there was no delay in providing these services to Core or where Core was permitted to perform such works.

5.5 Consequently the Authority considers that it has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the alleged conduct of SP Manweb may infringe the Chapter II prohibition of the CA98 by:

- Hindering, preventing or discriminating against connections providers not affiliated to SP Manweb from obtaining non-contestable services necessary for bidding for, and the performance of, connections work in the market for the supply of electricity connection services within SP Manweb's DSA (the relevant market), thereby placing them at a competitive disadvantage;
- distorting the level of competition in the market for the supply of electricity connections services; and
- resulting, over time, in the withdrawal by ICPs from SP Manweb's DSA, and thereby leading to a reduction or elimination of competition in the defined market.

6 Application of Article 82

6.1 Under Article 3(1) of the Modernisation Regulation¹² which is directly applicable in English law, the Authority is obliged to apply Article 82 of the EC Treaty (Article 82) when it applies national competition law to any abuse prohibited by Article 82. The investigation by Ofgem under the Competition Act 1998 involves the application of national competition law. As a result, the Authority is required to consider whether the conduct investigated in this case may affect trade between Member States.

6.2. The Authority has reached a preliminary view that the alleged anti-competitive behaviour by SP Manweb has an insignificant effect on trade between Member States. In the Authority's view, the effect on trade will be in a specific geographic region of Great Britain, namely SP Manweb's DSA. The Authority considers that this view is supported by the European Commission's Notice on effect on trade¹³, which indicates that:

"[w]here a dominant position covers only part of a Member State some guidance may, as in the case of agreements, be derived from the condition in Article 82 that the dominant position must cover a substantial part of the common market. If the dominant position covers part of a Member State that constitutes a substantial part of the common market and the abuse makes it more difficult for competitors from other Member States to gain access to the market where the undertaking is dominant, trade between Member States must normally be considered capable of being appreciably affected." (Paragraph 97)

"[a]s in the case of dominant positions covering the whole of a Member State (cf. paragraph 95 above), trade may not be capable of being appreciably affected if the abuse is purely local in nature or involves only an insignificant share of the sales of the dominant undertaking." (Paragraph 99)

6.3 In this case, it is the Authority's preliminary conclusion that there is no material effect on trade between Member States and it has therefore decided that it is not necessary to consider the application of Article 82 of the EC Treaty. However, it should be noted that the Authority will assess whether conduct or an agreement has an effect on trade between Member States on a case-by-case basis, and may, therefore, reach a different conclusion in relation to alleged conduct of DNOs in future cases.

¹² Council Regulation 1/2003 of 16th December 2002 on the implementation of the rules on competition laid down in Articles 81 and 82 of the EC Treaty.

¹³ European Commission Notice on "Guidelines on the effect on trade concept contained in Articles 81 and 82 of the Treaty", (2004/ C 101/07)

7. The appropriateness of accepting commitments

7.1 The decision on whether to accept commitments is at the discretion of the Authority. The Authority's preliminary view is that it is appropriate to accept the commitments offered by SP Manweb. In coming to this view, the Authority has given careful consideration to the OFT's published guidance on the circumstances in which it may be appropriate to accept commitments, as required by section 31 D of the CA98.¹⁴

7.2 In this case, the Authority has identified specific competition concerns in relation to the conduct of SP Manweb. As a result of information submitted by the complainant and Ofgem's initial inquiries, Ofgem identified particular concerns relating to delays and discriminatory treatment with regard to the provision by SP Manweb of non-contestable connection services.¹⁵

7.3 The Authority considers that the acceptance of commitments in this case will not undermine deterrence. There are currently voluntary industry standards in place regarding the provision of POC information. However, Ofgem is also currently seeking to strengthen this voluntary standard by consulting on the implementation of a licence condition to specifically address discrimination in the provision of POC information by any DNOs.^{16 17} In light of this potential new licence condition¹⁸, the Authority concluded that the acceptance of commitments, which address other types of non-contestable services in addition to POC information, would be an appropriate and also an efficient use of resources.

7.4 It is also the Authority's view that the acceptance of binding commitments is likely to send a signal to the connections industry on appropriate standards for the provision of non-contestable services. This may encourage other DNOs to comply with Ofgem's voluntary service standards and engage in other Ofgem policy initiatives (e.g. live jointing trials for ICPs). In this respect the acceptance of binding commitments may lead to wider compliance and deter possible anti-competitive conduct in the energy sector.

7.5 After reviewing the commitments offered by SP Manweb, the Authority's preliminary conclusion is that the commitments offered by SP Manweb are likely to fully address the competition concerns. The Authority's assessment of this issue is contained in section 9.

7.6 The Authority is also satisfied that these commitments can be implemented effectively and within an appropriate timescale. Most of the commitments will be implemented within 90 days of formal acceptance of the commitments. The Authority does not envisage there will be any difficulties in monitoring SP Manweb's compliance with regard to the binding commitments being offered. The Authority's view is that ICPs are well placed to monitor SP Manweb's future conduct and compliance. SP Manweb has also offered to report on a regular basis to the Authority as part of their commitments.

¹⁴ The guidance approved by the Secretary of State on 21 December 2004 "*The OFT's guidance as to the circumstances in which it may be appropriate to accept commitments*" contained in the annex of the competition law guideline "*Enforcement*" (OFT407) 21 December 2004.

¹⁵ See section 4 for a description of the competition concerns identified by the Authority.

¹⁶ Ofgem intends to consult on the licence modification proposal in July 2005.

¹⁷ The intended licence condition will not address discrimination in the provision of other non-contestable services.

¹⁸ If implemented, this will provide another tool for Ofgem to monitor and take action against similar behaviour to that alleged against SP Manweb. Given the Authority's sectoral enforcement powers, the Authority considers that the new licence condition will provide strong deterrence signals to the industry.

7.7 The Authority has assessed the appropriateness of accepting the commitments offered by SP Manweb in the specific context of the present regulatory environment. The Authority's consultation on the proposal to accept commitments in this particular case must not be taken as suggesting that the Authority or any other Competition Authority will be minded to accept commitments in future cases, whether or not similar facts are present.

8 The Commitments

8.1 The full details of the commitments offered by SP Manweb are contained in Annex 1. In summary the commitments offered by SP Manweb are intended to ensure that:

- Core and ICPs are treated in a non-discriminatory manner in relation to the provision of non contestable connection services;
- SP Manweb provides all ICPs with non contestable connection services within the recommended timescales;¹⁹
- All ICPs can be provided the same access on a non-discriminatory basis to IT systems as Core, SP Manweb's affiliated connections provider;
- POC information is provided to ICPs in accordance with agreed industry standards;
- An effective mechanism exists for Ofgem to monitor SP Manweb's performance against the timescales within which it has committed to providing its services.

¹⁹ See Ofgem's publication titled 'Competition in Connections – Standards of Service and the Contestable/Non-Contestable Split', 20 October 2003.

9 How the commitments address the competition concerns

9.1 To prevent the distortion, reduction or elimination of competition in the market for the provision of electricity connection services to end users within SP Manweb's DSA, it is essential that there is non-discriminatory access in the provision of non-contestable services. Where Core has been subcontracted to carry out certain works on behalf of SP Manweb, which are necessary for the preparation of POC information, it is critical that procedures are in place to address the Authority's competition concerns.

9.2 The Authority's preliminary view is that all the competition concerns identified will be addressed by the commitments offered by SP Manweb. The Authority's assessment of how the commitments will address each category of its competition concerns is detailed in this section.

Point of Connection information

(a) Delays with the provision of point of connection (POC) information by SP Manweb to non-affiliate ICPs, in circumstances where either delays were not experienced by Core or where Core was able to determine POC without recourse to SP Manweb.

9.3 The Authority is concerned that the delays in providing POC information to non-affiliated ICPs will materially affect the ability of Core's competitors to provide end-customers, such as developers, with electricity connections within the relevant market. As explained above, in order to submit a bid to a developer for connection work an ICP requires POC information from the DNO, in this case SP Manweb. If POC information is not obtained within a reasonable timescale, ICPs may miss the opportunity to bid for connections work or need to estimate the POC information themselves. Without the data used and provided by SP Manweb, such estimates of POC information are unlikely to be accurate.

9.4 The Authority is also concerned that the connection service provider affiliated to SP Manweb, Core, did not appear to experience similar delays. Furthermore, unlike the non-affiliated ICPs, Core had access to some of SP Manweb's IT systems which provide it with data on network capacity and potentially allow it to make a more accurate estimate of the point of connection (POC) information. Competing ICPs were therefore at a competitive disadvantage vis-à-vis Core because they were unable to receive POC information in a timely manner and had potentially less information on which to estimate the POC information. Should a bid based on estimated POC information be accepted by a developer and the cost of the actual POC is greater, the ICP normally incurs the difference in cost. Consequently, non-affiliated ICPs also face greater financial risk than Core when competing for connections work in the absence of timely POC information.

9.5 SP Manweb has offered commitments that require it to provide POC information to all ICPs within recommended timescales.²⁰ Transparent procedures will be put in place to ensure that ICPs can track the progress of their POC request. SP Manweb will also be required to ensure that ICPs are fully informed of the reasons if a request for POC information is incomplete. SP Manweb will also be required to report to Ofgem on a

²⁰ See Ofgem publication "Competition in Connections – Standards of Service and the Contestable/Non-Contestable Split, 20 October 2003;

quarterly basis on their performance in providing POC information within the recommended timescales and in processing incomplete POC requests.

9.6 SP Manweb shall also offer all ICPs the same access to its IT systems as currently enjoyed by Core. This access will need to be requested by an ICP and shall be subject to the same conditions (including access fees) as applied to Core. Information on access to IT systems that is not currently available to ICPs shall be made public on SP Manweb's website. This will place all connection providers on a level playing field in estimating POC information.

(b) Inadequate and/or inaccurate POC information has been provided to non-affiliate connections businesses, in circumstances where either Core were provided with more accurate POC information or were able to determine POC without recourse SP Manweb.

9.7 The Authority is also concerned by the alleged discrimination between Core and other ICPs with regard to the adequacy and accuracy of the POC information provided by SP Manweb. In order to provide connections providers with POC information, SP Manweb requires certain technical information about the proposed project and will produce different POC information depending on the information received. Although the Authority appreciates that for complex projects, it would be impractical to give the same POC information on the same projects since the competing connection providers will have designed the network for the project differently, competition concerns may arise where non-affiliated ICPs are provided with an inferior POC information service. Furthermore, Core has an advantage when requesting POC information because of its access to some of SP Manweb's IT systems, which may assist it in defining its POC request.

9.8 SP Manweb has offered the Authority a commitment not to discriminate between Core and the non-affiliated ICPs in the provision of POC information. SP Manweb shall also ensure that the information required from ICPs for the provision of POC information is clearly specified.²¹ SP Manweb shall also ensure that POC information is accurate and adequate by providing the quote in an industry specified format.²²

SP Manweb will also ensure that POC information requests are treated in a non-discriminatory manner and will follow the same procedure for each request.²³ Where the same or similar technical information is provided by any two or more connection providers, SP Manweb shall provide the same or similar POC information to all. As explained above, SP Manweb shall also ensure that ICPs can have the same access to its IT systems as Core. This will ensure that all ICPs can request equal access to the same information when preparing their POC information requests.

(c) Core's role in the preparation of POC information to non-affiliated ICPs

9.9 The Authority's concerns in relation to delays experienced by ICPs in the provision of POC information and the accuracy with which it is provided also arise with respect to the role of Core in the preparation of POC information. In order to provide POC

²¹ This information is contained in the SP Manweb document "Design and Planning Framework for Greenfield Low Voltage Housing Estates and Associated HV/LV Distribution substations" which forms an appendix to SP Manweb's commitments.

²² See Ofgem August 2002 Decision Document "Review of Competition Gas and Electricity Connections – Report" which is appended to SP Manweb's commitments in Annex 1.

²³ The procedure is outlined in the SP Manweb document "POC Quotation Process" which forms an appendix to SP Manweb's commitments.

information, it is necessary for SP Manweb to prepare a project design and to identify suitable points of connection. SP Power Systems has a subcontract with Core whereby SP Manweb is able to request Core to perform this work, as required. The Authority is concerned that this provides Core with the ability to influence both the timescales in which the POC information is issued to competing ICPs as well as the nature of the POC information.

9.10 SP Manweb has made a commitment to put in place procedures when subcontracting the non-contestable design work to Core. Where SP Manweb subcontracts non-contestable design services to Core, Core will be required to carry out the work within a timescale that allows SP Manweb to provide POC information to competing ICPs within the recommended timescales (explained in section 8.4 above). This means that Core does not gain any material advantage in terms of timing of POC provision since SP Manweb will be responsible for ensuring that POC information is issued in the recommended timescales. SP Manweb will be responsible for checking the design work as part of the approval process and for issuing the POC information to Core and the other ICPs. SP Manweb shall also ensure that Core does not provide POC information directly to competing ICPs and that Core is not notified of the provision of POC information by SP Manweb to other ICPs. SP Manweb will also ensure that Core will not have access to any additional IT systems that would enable it to carry out the non-contestable design work and thereby bypass SP Manweb's approval process.

9.11 By taking the steps outlined above it is the Authority's preliminary view that these commitments address its competition concerns in relation to the provision of POC information.

Design approval

9.12 Once a connections provider has been awarded a contract from a developer, it must submit its design for approval by the relevant DNO, in this case SP Manweb. As noted above, the Authority's concerns relate to delays in approving the designs of non-affiliated ICPs, which did not appear to be experienced by Core. Although in certain instances the Authority understands that it will not always be appropriate for SP Manweb to approve designs by ICPs, for example where safety concerns arise, the Authority is concerned that unjustified delays may competitively disadvantage those connections providers who experience the delays. Unjustified delays in design approval can have a negative impact upon an ICP's reputation as a competent and efficient operator and therefore may influence the developer's choice of connections provider in future projects. For ICPs to be able to compete effectively with Core, it is critical that there are not unjustified delays in design approval.

9.13 SP Manweb has offered commitments to ensure that all designs are either approved or rejected within 10 days.²⁴ Where designs are rejected, SP Manweb is required to inform the ICP of the reasons for the rejection. SP Manweb shall also ensure that ICPs are informed about the information that SP Manweb requires to approve designs.²⁵ It will require the same information from non-affiliated ICPs and Core²⁶ prior to approving

²⁴ As recommended by the Ofgem publication "Competition in Connections – Standards of Service and the Contestable/Non-Contestable Split", 20 October 2003;

²⁵ See SP Manweb document "Design and Planning Framework for Greenfield Low Voltage Housing Estates and Associated HV/LV Distribution substations" which forms an appendix to SP Manweb's commitments.

²⁶ Information is set out in SP Manweb document "Design & planning Framework for Greenfield Low Voltage Housing Estates and Associated HV/LV Distribution Substations" and is an annexe to SP Manweb's commitments in Annex 1.

a design and will apply the same criteria in assessing a design by the ICPs or Core. SP Manweb will also report to Ofgem on a quarterly basis on their performance in approving designs within the recommended timescales.

9.14 By accepting commitments to approve ICPs' designs within certain timescales and to give full reasons for any rejection of any proposed design, it is the Authority's preliminary view that the competition concerns relating to the unjustified delay in design approval will be addressed.

Works associated with connections to the distribution network

9.15 A number of ICPs (including Core) are qualified to perform their own low voltage live jointing works and therefore require an "initial make live" connection from SP Manweb. Other ICPs that are not qualified to perform low voltage live jointing works will require all live jointing work on site to be performed on their behalf by SP Manweb, this work is known as "subsequent make live connection" work. As a subcontractor and affiliated connections provider, Core is able to carry out the connection of new developments to the distribution network. This means that Core is able to perform "initial make live" connections for its own projects and also for other ICPs qualified to perform their own live low voltage jointing. Core is also able to provide "subsequent make live" connections for ICPs that are not qualified or choose not to perform low voltage live jointing.

9.16 Although the Authority acknowledges that the DNO is responsible for the safe operation of the distribution network and that it may be inappropriate for non-affiliated ICPs to perform initial make live or subsequent make live connections, (in the case of the latter this applies where the ICP is not qualified to live joint), the Authority is concerned that unjustified delays in SP Manweb performing this work may competitively disadvantage the ICP whose work is delayed. Delays may affect a non-affiliated ICPs reputation as competent and efficient operators and thereby influence the developer's choice of connections provider in future projects. Delays in connection to the distribution network may in turn delay the construction and completion of the properties in a development.

9.17 In its commitments SP Manweb shall ensure that dates for the completion of initial make live and subsequent make live connections are agreed, within a reasonable timescale with the ICP. With regard to initial make live connections, SP Manweb shall agree a date for the provision of this service with the ICP. In the event that SP Manweb is unable to meet the agreed date, SP Manweb will inform the ICP and offer a new date within 5 working days. The new date offered shall be as soon as is reasonably practicable, which will be no more than 10 working days after the 5 working day period and will be at no extra charge to the ICP. SP Manweb will report to Ofgem, on a quarterly basis, of their performance in providing "initial make live" connections on the agreed date.

9.18 Where an ICP requests a subsequent make live connection from SP Manweb, SP Manweb shall respond within 10 days to offer a date to provide such services. Once a date has been agreed, SP Manweb will take all reasonably practical steps to carry out the services on this date. In the event that SP Manweb is unable to carry out the live jointing on the agreed date, SP Manweb will inform the ICP and offer a new date within 5 working days. The new date shall be as soon as is reasonably practicable, which will be no more than 10 working days after the initial 5 working day period and will be at

no extra charge to the ICP. SP Manweb has committed to reporting to Ofgem on a quarterly basis of its performance in agreeing dates for “subsequent make live” requests within the recommended timescales and reporting its performance in completing the “subsequent make live” on the agreed date.

9.19 SP Manweb shall also apply non-discriminatory procedures in permitting non-affiliated ICPs to undertake “subsequent” live low voltage jointing work within the boundaries of greenfield or brownfield new housing developments. SP Manweb shall publish on its website details of the criteria which an ICP is required to meet in order to carry out live jointing works.

9.20 It is the Authority’s initial view that the adoption of a procedure for agreeing the timescales for work associated with connections to the distribution network will remove the competition concerns arising from unjustified delays.

10. Proposal to accept commitments

10.1 In light of the above assessment, the Authority considers that the Commitments offered by SP Manweb will address its competition concerns and therefore proposes to accept the Commitments by means of a formal commitments decision pursuant to section 31A of the Competition Act 1998.

10.2 The Authority now invites interested third parties to make written representations on the proposal to accept Commitments and the contents of the Commitments contained in Annex 1. The Authority will take such representations into account before making its final decision whether to accept the Commitments.

11. Invitation to comment

11.1 Any person wishing to comment on the Commitments offered by SP Manweb should submit written representations to Ofgem at the address given below, by Friday 22 July 2005. Any confidential material contained in such representations should be clearly identified and supporting reasons for its confidentiality should be provided.

Paul Huffer
Corporate Affairs
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets
3rd Floor
9 Millbank
Westminster
London SW1P 3GE
Email: paul.huffer@ofgem.gov.uk
Fax: 0207 901 7196

Annex 1. Commitments offered by SP Manweb plc

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Commitments offered by SP Manweb plc (Company Number 02366937) ("SP Manweb") to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the "Authority") pursuant to Section 31A of the Competition Act 1998.

PART I - BACKGROUND

1. SP Manweb is an electricity distribution network operator ("DNO") whose distribution services area includes the cities of Chester, Liverpool and Wrexham. SP Manweb is a company within the Scottish Power UK plc group. SP Manweb sub contracts the day to day operation of its business to SP Power Systems Limited, which is a company within the Scottish Power UK plc Group.

2. Following receipt of a complaint from an Independent Connections Provider ("ICP") in 2002, the Authority identified potential concerns in respect of the activities of SP Manweb. These concerns relate to alleged potential anti-competitive behaviour in the provision of non-contestable connection services, including point of connection ("POC") information, final connections and design approval to ICPs. Of particular concern to the Authority is the nature of the relationship between SP Manweb and Core Utility Solutions Limited ("Core"). SP Manweb is the only provider of non-contestable connection services, including the provision of POC information, in its distribution service area. SP Power Systems acts as agent for SP Manweb in delivering non – contestable connection services to ICPs and carries out all of SP Manweb's day – to – day functions in that regard.

3. As a result of the concerns outlined above, the Authority considered that there were reasonable grounds for suspecting that there may have been an infringement of the prohibition contained in Chapter II of the Competition Act 1998 ("the Act") on or around the period 2002/3, and accordingly an investigation was commenced.

4. SP Manweb has made an offer to enter into binding Commitments that are intended to address, fully, the concerns of the Authority. These Commitments, including their duration, are set out at paragraphs 5 to 11 below. The giving of such Commitments by SP Manweb is in no way an actual or implied admission that SP Manweb has infringed or will infringe the Act, in any way, by, for example, discriminating in favour of any person in respect of POC information or in any other regard, but rather aims to allay the Authority's concerns that a breach of the Act might occur in the future.

PART II – COMMITMENTS

5. Provision of POC quotations

5.1 (Definition of POC Quotation). In this section a “POC quotation” shall mean a quotation issued by SP Manweb for the provision of non-contestable works in respect of a contestable connection project containing a statement of the non-contestable works required, a breakdown of charges for such works and any necessary supporting information, for instance maps.

A “Compliant Request” shall be request from an ICP containing all relevant information. The information requirements referred to in the preceding sentences are specified within the SP Manweb document entitled "Design & Planning Framework for Greenfield Low Voltage Housing Estates and Associated HV/LV Distribution Substations", as set out at Appendix II to these Commitments.

5.2 (Discrimination). SP Manweb shall not unduly discriminate between Core and any ICPs in respect of:-

- (i) requests for POC quotations by, ensuring that such requests are treated according to the document headed "POC Quotation Process (Overview)", as attached at Appendix 1 to these Commitments; and
- (ii) the provision of POC Quotations and in respect of the timing of delivery of POC Quotations.

5.3 (Delivery of POC Quotation). SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to secure that in respect of no less than ninety percent of Compliant Requests, SP Manweb provides POC quotations or a date for such provision (as the case may be) to ICPs in accordance with the following timescales:

- Simple schemes (LV mains and services) – 15 working days;
- Complex schemes (including HV) – 20 working days; and
- Complicated schemes (including EHV) – date for provision of POC quotation to be notified within 10 working days.

The time limits for providing the POC quotation shall begin to run at such time as the requesting ICP provides a Compliant Request.

In the event of a delay beyond such deadlines SP Manweb shall inform the relevant ICP as soon as reasonably practicable of (i) the delay and (ii) a new delivery date, giving brief reasons for the delay.

SP Manweb shall keep the following statistics accurately to monitor the time taken to produce POC quotations from the date of receipt of a Compliant Request:

Simple Schemes

- Number of Simple Scheme Compliant Requests received;
- Number of Simple Scheme POC quotations delivered within 15 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- Number of Simple Scheme POC quotations delivered over 15 working days and up to 20 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- Number of Simple Scheme POC quotations delivered over 20 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;

Complex Schemes

- Number of Complex Scheme Compliant Requests received;
- Number of Complex Scheme POC quotations delivered within 20 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- Number of Complex Scheme POC quotations delivered over 20 working days and up to 30 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- Number of Complex Scheme POC quotations delivered over 30 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;

Complicated Schemes

- Number of Complicated Scheme Compliant Requests received;
- Number of Complicated Scheme POC quotation delivery dates notified within 10 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- Number of Complicated Scheme POC quotation delivery dates notified over 10 working days and up to 20 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core.
- Number of Complicated Scheme POC quotation delivery dates notified over 20 working days of the dates of receipt of the Compliant Requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core.

This information shall be supplied to the Authority at the end of each calendar quarter.

5.4 (Non- Compliant Requests). If an ICP submits a request for a POC Quotation that SP Manweb reasonably considers is not a Compliant Request SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to secure that SP Manweb shall inform such ICP of such matters and specify, in reasonable detail, the reasons why SP Manweb considers such request not to be a Compliant Request, as soon as reasonably practicable. In any event, in respect of the following schemes, ICPs shall be informed of such matters within the following timescales: -

- Simple schemes (LV mains and services) – no later than 15 working days; and
- Complex schemes (including HV) – no later than 20 working days.

SP Manweb shall keep the following statistics accurately to monitor the time taken to inform ICPs of the fact that such requests are not Compliant Requests:

Simple Schemes

- The number of Simple Scheme non Compliant Requests received;
- The average time it takes SP Manweb to inform the relevant ICP or Core of non compliance, from the date of receipt of the requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;

Complex Schemes

- The number of Complex Scheme non Compliant Requests received;
- The average time it takes SP Manweb to inform the relevant ICP or Core of non compliance, from the date of receipt of the requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;

Complicated Schemes

- The number of Complicated Scheme non Compliant Requests received; and,
- The average time it takes SP Manweb to inform the relevant ICP or Core of non-compliance, from the date of receipt of the requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core.

This information shall be supplied to the Authority at the end of each calendar quarter.

5.5 (Adequacy of POC Quotations). SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure that POC quotations provided to ICPs are adequate and accurate and that POC quotations shall be disaggregated in the format specified by the Electricity Connections Steering Group as referred to in the Ofgem August 2002 Decision Document entitled “Review of Competition Gas and Electricity Connections – Report”. The format of the POC quotation is attached as Appendix III.

5.6 (Substance of POC Quotations). Where both Core and an ICP or two or more ICPs have made Compliant Requests for a POC quotation for the same development, and each POC quotation request specifies technical requirements that are similar in all material respects (for example the same point of connection, load requirements or same network design), SP Manweb shall using

Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure that a POC quotation, which is similar in all material respects, shall be issued to each such person. Such POC quotations shall be delivered in accordance with paragraph 5.3 (Delivery of POC Quotation) , (above).

5.7 (Sub contracting). Where:-

- (i) Core makes a Compliant Request in respect of a development and no other person has made a Compliant Request in respect of the same development or
 - (ii) both Core and an ICP make a Compliant Request at the same time in respect of the same development or an ICP makes a request after Core in respect of the same development;
- then, SP Manweb may (but shall not be obliged to) sub contract certain non-contestable design services, such as the preparation of a draft design of non-contestable works and list of materials required to Core.

Where an ICP has made a Compliant Request in respect of a development and Core has not made a Compliant Request in respect of the same development, SP Manweb shall not sub contract such services to Core.

Where such services are sub-contracted to Core, it shall be a term of such sub-contract that Core is obliged to provide such services in a timescale which permits SP Manweb to meet its obligations set out in paragraph 5.3 (Delivery of POC Quotation) (above).

5.8 (Provision of information and sub contracting). SP Manweb shall secure that Core shall not provide any of the following non – contestable services (even if any sub contracting occurs) to ICPs in respect of contestable projects:-

- approval and provision of point of connection information;
- approval and provision of non contestable designs; and
- approval and provision of non-contestable project quotations.

Where any services referred to in paragraph 5.7 (Sub contracting) above are sub-contracted to Core, such sub-contract shall expressly provide that Core shall not undertake the non-contestable services referred to in this paragraph.

5.9 (Provision of designs provided by Core). Where Core provides a design for a non-contestable project, SP Manweb may, following approval of that design and preparation of the quotation by SP Manweb, provide that design and quotation to ICPs. SP Manweb shall not notify Core of the provision of any such designs or quotations to any ICPs.

6. SP Manweb non-contestable works – Initial Making Live

6.1 (Definitions). In these Commitments, the initial connection of a new network (the New Network) (or a part of such New Network) constructed by the ICP to the existing SP Manweb distribution system shall be defined as the “Initial Make Live”. The subsequent connection of a further part of the New Network shall be referred to as the “Subsequent Make Live”. Making Live means the connection of contestable assets or a part thereof so that electricity can flow from the SP Manweb distribution system to the contestable assets or such part thereof (as the case may be) and Make Live shall be construed accordingly.

6.2 (Initial Make Live). SP Manweb shall undertake the Initial Making Live of contestable assets by the date agreed in the relevant Adoption Agreement but subject always to the terms specified in the Adoption Agreement. Once a date for Initial Making Live has been agreed, (the Agreed Initial Make Live Date), SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice, take all reasonably practicable steps to secure that SP Manweb shall carry out the Initial Make Live on the Agreed Initial Make Live Date.

6.3 (New Dates – Initial Make Live). In the event that SP Manweb is unable to meet the Agreed Initial Make Live Date SP Manweb shall as soon as reasonably practicable after it becomes aware of such matters inform the ICP of such matters, and shall take all reasonably practicable steps to offer a new date for the Initial Make Live to the ICP within 5 Working Days of becoming so aware. That new date shall, (subject to the terms of the Adoption Agreement) be as soon as reasonably practicable after the Agreed Initial Make Live Date and, in no less than ninety percent of cases, no later than ten Working Days after the date of the offer of the new Initial Make Live Date. . Such new date shall also be deemed to be a further Agreed Initial Make Live Date. No extra charge shall arise to the ICP as a consequence of such matters, where SP Manweb's inability to meet the Agreed Initial Make Live Date is the fault of SP Manweb.

6.4 (Provision of Information – Initial Make Live). SP Manweb shall keep accurate statistics to monitor compliance as follows:-

- The number of Agreed Initial Make Live Dates;
- The number of Agreed Initial Make Live Dates met by SP Manweb, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;

- The number of Agreed Initial Make Live Dates not met by SP Manweb owing to the ICP not meeting the SP Manweb conditions referred to at paragraph 6.5 (SP Manweb Conditions – Initial Make Live), disaggregated by each ICP and Core; and
- The number of Agreed Initial Make Live Dates not met by SP Manweb owing to other reasons, disaggregated by each ICP and Core.

This information shall be supplied to the Authority at the end of each calendar quarter.

6.5 (SP Manweb Conditions – Initial Make Live). SP Manweb's obligations under paragraphs 6.2 (Initial Make Live) and 6.3 (New Dates – Initial Make Live) are subject to the ICP's compliance with SP Manweb's reasonable conditions, as set out in the Adoption Agreement or as otherwise notified to the ICP (for example as to the completion of the contestable works in accordance with the agreed design).

6.6 (Disputes). In the event that SP Manweb and the relevant ICP do not agree a date for the Initial Make Live and the ICP raises a formal dispute under the Adoption Agreement SP Manweb shall inform the Authority of such dispute (providing a brief summary of the dispute) if it is submitted to adjudication.

6.7 (Subcontracting – Initial Make Live). SP Manweb shall not use Core to provide the Initial Make Live services to an ICP without the consent of the relevant ICP.

7. ICP contestable work – Subsequent Making Live

7.1 (Live Jointing trials). SP Manweb currently permits, on a trial basis, ICPs to carry out live low voltage jointing to new assets installed by an ICP within the boundaries of greenfield or brownfield new housing developments provided that the ICP meets certain criteria. SP Manweb shall apply non-discriminatory criteria in deciding whether an ICP can carry out such live low voltage jointing for so long as SP Manweb permits such live jointing to take place. SP Manweb shall always be permitted to refuse such permission for safety reasons. SP Manweb shall publish such criteria on the website referred to at paragraph 9.5 (Website).

7.2 (Requests for Live Jointing etc). Where (i) SP Manweb has agreed, in an Adoption Agreement, to provide live jointing services to an ICP and (ii) that ICP is not permitted to carry out live jointing, in accordance with paragraph 7.1 (Live Jointing trials), SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to secure that within ten working days of

receipt of a request for a Subsequent Make Live to be carried out by SP Manweb (Jointing Request) from an ICP SP Manweb shall either:-

- (i) offer a date for the Subsequent Make Live requested, or
 - (ii) refuse to carry out such Subsequent Make Live, giving reasons for such refusal;
- in respect of no less than ninety percent of such Jointing Requests.

7.3 (SP Manweb and Provision of Live Jointing Services). Once a date for the Subsequent Make Live has been agreed (the Agreed Jointing Date), SP Manweb shall using Good Industry Practice, take all reasonably practicable steps to secure that SP Manweb shall carry out the Subsequent Make Live on the Agreed Jointing Date.

7.4 (New Dates – Subsequent Make Live). In the event that SP Manweb is unable to meet the Agreed Jointing Date SP Manweb shall as soon as reasonably practicable after it becomes aware of such matters, inform the ICP of such matters, and shall take all reasonably practicable steps to offer a new date for the Subsequent Make Live to the ICP within 5 Working Days of becoming aware of such matters. That new date shall, (subject to the terms of the Adoption Agreement) be as soon as reasonably practicable after the Agreed Jointing Date and, in no less than ninety percent of cases, no later than ten Working Days after the date of the offer of the new Agreed Jointing Date. Such new date shall be deemed to be a Further Agreed Jointing Date. No extra charge shall arise to the ICP as a consequence of such matters where SP Manweb's inability to meet the agreed Subsequent Make Live Date is the fault of SP Manweb.

7.5 (Provision of Information – live jointing services by SP Manweb). SP Manweb shall keep accurate statistics to monitor compliance as follows.

Jointing Requests

- The number of Jointing Requests received;
- The number of responses to Jointing Requests made within ten working days, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- The number of responses to Jointing Requests made over ten working days and up to fifteen working days, disaggregated by each ICP and Core; and
- The number of responses to Jointing Requests made over fifteen working days, disaggregated by each ICP and Core

Agreed Jointing Dates

- The number of Agreed Jointing Dates;
- The number of Agreed Jointing Dates met by SP Manweb, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;

- The number of Agreed Jointing Dates not met by SP Manweb owing to the ICP not meeting the SP Manweb conditions referred to at paragraph 7.5 (SP Manweb conditions – Subsequent Make Live), disaggregated by each ICP and Core; and
- The number of Agreed Jointing Dates not met by SP Manweb owing to other reasons, disaggregated by each ICP and Core.

This information shall be supplied to the Authority at the end of each calendar quarter.

7.6 (SP Manweb conditions – Subsequent Make Live). SP Manweb's obligations under paragraphs 7.3 (SP Manweb and Provision of Live Jointing Services) or 7.4 (New Dates – Subsequent Make Live) are subject to the ICP's compliance with SP Manweb's reasonable conditions, as set out in the Adoption Agreement or otherwise notified to the ICP (for example as to the completion of the contestable works in accordance with the agreed design).

7.7 (Disputes). In the event that SP Manweb and the relevant ICP do not agree a date for the Initial Make Live or Subsequent Make Live, and the ICP raises a formal dispute under the Adoption Agreement SP Manweb shall inform the Authority of such dispute (providing a brief summary of the dispute) if it is submitted to adjudication.

7.8 (Subcontracting – Jointing). SP Manweb shall not use Core to provide Initial Make Live or Subsequent Make Live services to an ICP without the consent of the relevant ICP.

7.9 (Discrimination and Adoption Agreements). SP Manweb shall not unduly discriminate as between ICPs and Core and/or as between ICPs in respect of the terms and conditions applicable to the adoption of contestable networks in the relevant agreement ("the Adoption Agreement").

8. Approval of contestable designs by SP Manweb

8.1 (Design Approval) SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to secure that in no less than ninety per cent of cases SP Manweb approves or rejects contestable design proposals from ICPs within 10 working days of receipt of the design in question, subject always to the contestable design proposal submitted to SP Manweb being complete and accurate. Where SP Manweb rejects a contestable design proposal from an ICP SP Manweb shall give reasons (in reasonable detail) for such rejection to the ICP.

The time limits for approving these contestable designs shall begin to run at such time as the requesting ICP provides all relevant information. The information requirements referred to in the

preceding sentences are specified within the SP Manweb document entitled "Design & Planning Framework for Greenfield Low Voltage Housing Estates and Associated HV/LV Distribution Substations", as set out at Appendix II to these Commitments.

8.2 (Reporting – Design Approval) SP Manweb shall keep the following statistics accurately to monitor the time it takes SP Manweb to approve or reject contestable design proposals from the date that all relevant information is supplied by the ICP.

- The number of requests for design approval received;
- The number of responses to requests for design approval delivered within 10 working days of the dates of receipt of the requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- The number of responses to requests for design approval delivered over 10 working days and up to 20 working days of the dates of receipt of the requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;
- Number of responses to requests for design approval delivered over 20 working days of the dates of receipt of the requests, disaggregated by each ICP and Core;

This information shall be supplied to the Authority at the end of each calendar quarter.

8.3 (Non discrimination – Approval) When SP Manweb receives contestable design proposals for approval from both Core and one or more ICPs, it shall ensure that such design proposals will be subject to the same approval criteria and information requirements, to ensure that Core and the ICPs are treated fairly and without undue discrimination in this regard.

9. Information requests and information provision

9.1 (C-Ram and PC Map Access). SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to make available and keep available to all connections market participants, on a non- discriminatory basis, the IT systems C-Ram, (a system for connections registration and management); and PC MapAccess (a system that provides access to certain maps of the SP Manweb network).

Where any such IT system is replaced, SP Manweb shall using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to make available and keep available to all connections market participants such replacement, , on a non- discriminatory basis, only to the extent that such access is required to provide to such market participants access to similar information and services that they were able to obtain from C-Ram and PC Map Access (as the case may be).

9.2 (Plants and Circuits Queries) SP Manweb shall using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to secure that, within a reasonable time from receipt of a request, (in writing),

from an ICP requesting access to the IT system Plant and Circuits Queries (a system which shows certain details of SP Manweb plant and apparatus) (which is scheduled for introduction in the summer of 2005) (or any replacement, to the extent that such replacement provides similar information and services) to make available and keep available to all connections market participants, on a non- discriminatory basis, such IT system. The extent of such access shall be no different to any access granted to Core.

9.3 (Other IT Systems) When any other IT system that could be used by an ICP or Core in the preparation of a draft POC quotation (or otherwise in respect of matters related to POC design matters) is made available to Core or an ICP by SP Manweb, SP Manweb shall, using Good Industry Practice take all reasonably practicable steps to make such IT system available to each other ICP and Core (should any such ICP or Core request access), subject to the provisions of this paragraph and on a non- discriminatory basis.

9.4 (Conditions of Access) Access to the IT systems set out above (other than C- Ram) is conditional upon the requesting ICP being registered for design accreditation under the National Electrical Registration Scheme operated by Lloyds of London.

Access to such IT systems is also conditional upon the agreement of appropriate commercial terms (for example as regards price), governing such matters between SP Manweb and any ICP requesting access. In offering such commercial terms, and in the making available of all such IT Systems SP Manweb shall not unduly discriminate between Core and ICPs or as between ICPs.

Access to such IT systems shall also be subject to the compliance by the relevant ICP with the requirements and conditions of any licensor and/or other provider of such systems.

SP Manweb may withdraw access to such IT systems on giving no less than three month's notice to any users of such systems. Such withdrawal shall be on a non-discriminatory basis.

9.5 (Website) SP Manweb shall publish, on the internet, pages giving an overview of key aspects of SP Manweb's processes and procedures regarding competition in connections including the availability of access of the IT systems listed above.

PART III - TIMING

10.1 (Implementation) SP Manweb shall ensure that the Commitments set out in paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 above are fully incorporated into SP Manweb's operational procedures no later than 90 days after the date of signing of these Commitments. SP Manweb shall notify the Authority when such incorporation takes place (the "Incorporation Date"). The Commitments shall remain in full force and effect from the Incorporation Date until the later to occur of: -

- (i) the date occurring three years after the Incorporation Date; and,
- (ii) the date on which the contract between Core and SP Power Systems Limited (which may be entered into on or around the date of these Commitments) in respect of the provision by Core to SP Power Systems Limited of connection services terminates or if no such contract is entered into the date on which SP Manweb notifies the Authority of such fact, at which time they shall cease to be operative.

PART IV –OTHER MATTERS

11.1 (Exceptional Circumstances) The fulfilment of the following provisions of the Commitments, namely 5.3 (Delivery of POC Quotation); 5.4 (Non- Compliant Requests); 6.2 (Initial Make Live); 6.3 (New Dates – Initial Make Live); 6.4 (Provision of Information – Initial Make Live); 7.2 (Requests for Live Jointing etc); 7.3 (SP Manweb and provision of live jointing services); 7.4 (New Dates – Subsequent Make Live); 7.5 (Provision of Information – live jointing); 8.1 (Design Approval); 8.2 (Reporting – Design Approval); 9.1 (C-Ram and PC Map Access); 9.2 (Plants and Circuits Queries); 9.3 (Other IT Systems); and 9.5 (Website) shall at all times be subject to events and/or exceptional circumstances beyond the reasonable control of SP Manweb (for example) act of God, strike, lockout, war, terrorist act, riot, lightning, fire, storm, flood, act of vandalism, civil disturbance, failure of plant and apparatus (which could not have been prevented by Good Industry Practice) and explosion, but only to the extent that such events or circumstances cause SP Manweb to be unable to fulfil these Commitments.

SP Manweb shall act in accordance with Good Industry Practice to remedy its inability to fulfil these Commitments as a consequence of such events or circumstances as soon as reasonably practicable. SP Manweb shall notify the Authority as soon as reasonably practicable if such events or circumstances cause SP Manweb to be unable to fulfil the commitments. Such notice shall set out, in reasonable detail, the relevant events or circumstances and the relevant affected obligations.

In these Commitments the phrase "Good Industry Practice" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the document entitled the Connection and Use of System Code, as made pursuant to the National

Grid Company plc Transmission Licence and as designated by the Secretary of State in September 2004.

Where these Commitments refer to the provision of information to the Authority such information shall be provided in writing, in a format to be agreed between the Authority and SP Manweb from time to time.

Where SP Manweb sub contracts any part of non – contestable work, such sub – contracting shall not relieve SP Manweb of any liability for performance under these Commitments.

11.2 (References to documents). Any reference to the SP Manweb document entitled "Design & Planning Framework for Greenfield Low Voltage Housing Estates and Associated HV/LV Distribution Substations" shall be to the document with reference ESDD-02-12 of that name (which should be read together with the Energy Networks Association document "Engineering Recommendation G81"), and as amended, varied or replaced from time to time. That document shall be made available to ICPs by SP Manweb.

11.3. Where reference in this document is made to the disclosure of a person's identity to the Authority, such disclosure shall also include such persons name and address. However such disclosure is subject to such person's consent being obtained by SP Manweb, so as to secure compliance with applicable laws such as the Data Protection Act.

Signed on behalf of SP Manweb plc

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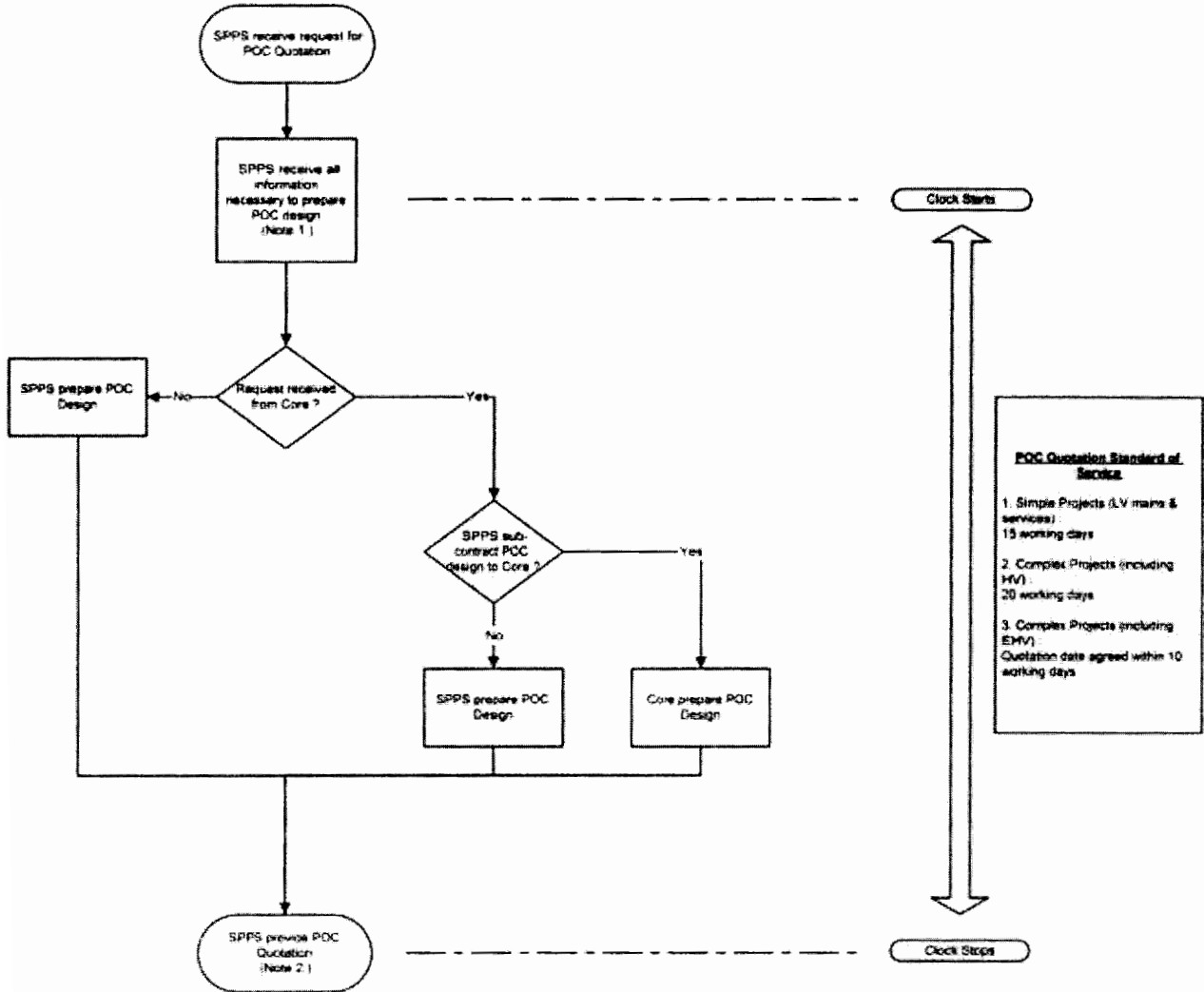
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Dove Wynd
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Bellshill
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Date

Appendix I

POC Quotation Process (Overview)



Note 1 - Information requirements specified in EP document ESDD-02012 Appendices A and B (DNO specific ER GB1 appendix)

Note 2 - POC quotation disaggregated in format specified by Ofgem in August 2002 Decisions document. Also includes POC information - e.g. site plan, design parameters etc.

Appendix II

Design & Planning Framework for Greenfield Low Voltage Housing Estates and Associated HV/LV Distribution Substations

1. SCOPE

This document details the SP Distribution Limited and SP Manweb plc requirements for the design of low voltage underground cable electricity networks including their new associated HV / LV distribution substations. The document specifically relates to housing estates constructed under Ofgem's Competition in Connections regime. This document does not detail arrangements for multi-occupied premises or industrial / commercial supplies.

The document forms the appendix to, and must be read in conjunction with, G81 – the Electricity Association publication titled: Framework for design and planning, materials specification and installation and record for low voltage housing developments underground network installations and associated, new, HV/LV distribution substations.

This document only applies to new developments comprising of single-occupied premises and their associated street lighting installations and is not to be applied retrospectively.

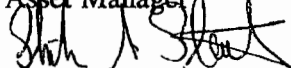
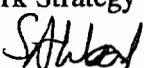
2. ISSUE RECORD

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Issue Date	Issue No	Author	Amendment Details
09/07/2002	Issue 1	M. Everett	
15/10/2004	Issue 2	A. Scott	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document References and general requirements • Substation location / access requirements • Guidance on 11kV network configuration • Service access and termination requirements • Characteristics for 3 phase street lighting supply • Further guidance on ADMD estimates • Quality of supply considerations • Minimum information for a quotation template • Cable rating tables

3. ISSUE AUTHORITY

Author	Owner	Issue Authority
Andrew Scott Network Strategy Engineering Consultant	Stephen Stewart Asset Manager 	Steve Wood Network Strategy Director 

4. REVIEW

This document shall be subject to review no later than three years from the issue date.

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6. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADMD	After Diversity Maximum Demand
Applicant	The organisation (or their representative) responsible for the overall design and development of the Housing Site. Typically referred to as the Client or Principal contractor under the CDM regulations.
Approved	Policy and design parameters contained within this document and its appendices or the written approval of SP Distribution Ltd / SP Manweb plc.
CDM	The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994.
CNE	Combined neutral and earth (of cable construction).
Common Access	Parts of the development to which all residents / SP Distribution Ltd / SP Manweb plc representatives have unrestricted access.
Customer	The recipients of the power supply being a tenant or owner of a domestic dwelling.
Distributors	A main electricity cable laid externally in the ground and supplying more than one.
External Meter Cupboard	A cupboard, positioned external to the property and containing the 's Point of Supply.
Greenfield	A plot of land that has not been subject to any form of development.
Housing Site	A development consisting of domestic dwellings.
Incoming Supply Cable	An electricity cable connecting the building to the SP Distribution Ltd / SP Manweb plc network.
Interconnection	Cables that have more than one supply source available. Full Interconnection refers to cables that run normally with more than one supply source in use as found in unit protected networks.
Link Boxes	A device buried in the ground but accessible from street level that enables cables to be isolated by the removal of links.

Mains	See distributor definition.
Network Pillars	An outdoor cupboard arrangement that enables cables to be isolated by the removal of links / fuses.
New Connection Contractor	Independent contractor wishing to undertake Contestable Work within the Company's licensed area, as detailed in PowerSystems document ASSET-01-015.
NRSWA	New Roads and Street Works Act.
PME	Protective multiple earthing.
Point of Connection	The position at which a developer's network would connect to the existing distribution system.
PSCC	Prospective Short Circuit Current
Point of Supply	The point at which the ownership of the electrical cable network passes from SP Distribution Ltd / SP Manweb plc to the .
PowerSystems	SP PowerSystems Ltd, operator of network assets on behalf of the Company
Service	A cable providing supply to an individual house.
Service Position	The location in the 's property at which the SP Distribution Ltd / SP Manweb plc cable termination (cut-out) is located.
Service Strips	A clear route through a Housing Site containing utility infrastructure.
SP Distribution Ltd	The Distribution Licence Holder for the Distribution Service area formerly known as Scottish Power.
SP Manweb plc	The Distribution Licence Holder for the Distribution Service area formerly known as Manweb.
The Company	A term used throughout this document to refer to both SP Distribution Limited and SP Manweb plc including all associated design and planning practices.

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS

This document is one of a suite of specifications relating to this subject area and should be read in conjunction with:

(a) **Statutory Legislation**

- The Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002
- New Roads and Street Works Act 1991
- Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994

(b) **British Standards**

- BS 7671 Requirements for Electrical Installations – IEE Wiring Regulations
- BS 7430 Code of practice for Earthing

(c) **National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) Publications**

- Guidelines on the positioning and colour coding of Utilities' apparatus

(d) **Energy Network Association Documents:**

- Engineering Recommendation G81 - Framework for design and planning, materials specification and installation and record for Greenfield low voltage housing estate installations and associated, new, HV / LV distribution substations.
 - Part 1: Design and Planning
 - Part 2: Materials Specification
 - Part 3: Installation and Records
- Engineering Recommendation G12/3 (1995): Requirements for the application of protective multiple earthing to low voltage networks
- Engineering Recommendation P2/5 (1978): Security of Supply
- Engineering Recommendation P28 (1989): Planning limits for voltage fluctuations caused by industrial, commercial and domestic equipment in the United Kingdom
- Engineering Recommendation P29 (1990): Planning limits for voltage unbalance in the UK for 132kV and below
- Engineering Recommendation G5/4 (2001): Planning levels for harmonic voltage distortion & the connection of non-linear equipment to transmission systems & distribution networks in the United Kingdom.

(d) **Power Systems Internal Documents:**

- Materials Specification framework for Greenfield low voltage housing estate installations and associated new HV/LV distribution substations (Ref. EPS-03-027).

-
- Installation and Records framework for Greenfield low voltage housing estate installations and associated new HV/LV distribution substations (Ref. **EPS-02-005**).
 - Secondary Substation specification and installation SUB-02-006
 - Approved Equipment Register - Switchgear SWG-02-006
 - Power Systems New Connection Contractor Approval Policy Asset-01-0 15
 - Power Systems Requirements for New Connection Contractors to construct networks to be considered for Adoption Asset-01-016

All authorised designs must comply with both the requirements described within this document and those detailed above.

8. GENERAL

The data and guidance contained within this document remains the property of PowerSystems and may not be used for purposes other than that for which it has been supplied and may not be reproduced either wholly or in part, in any way whatsoever, nor may it be used by, or its contents divulged to, any other person whatsoever, without the prior written permission of the PowerSystems.

This document applies to new installations and is not to be applied retrospectively.

PowerSystems reserves the right to change the data contained within this document without notification. Although specific network extensions will be designed by third parties, PowerSystems maintains the responsibility for the design of the distribution system and since the guidance cannot cover every eventuality, reserve the right to apply other criteria where necessary. PowerSystems accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies in, or omissions from the document. The Applicant is responsible for ensuring they have all relevant information to undertake the design. Only Applicants possessing the appropriate skills, training and experience shall use the data and guidance contained within this document.

The requirements detailed within this document should be considered as a minimum and the majority will not be fully funded by the Company.

Power Systems may nominate a contractor to undertake some or all of its non-contestable obligations.

In addition to the requirements of this document prior to design approval and subsequent adoption of networks **New Connection Contractors** shall adhere to the requirements detailed in the following documents.

- Power Systems New Connection Contractor Approval Policy Asset-01-0 15
- Power Systems Requirements for New Connection Contractors to construct networks to be considered for Adoption Asset-01-016.

The data and guidance contained within this document details the electrical design only and does not embrace the physical construction of the distribution system or the associated safety, environmental and legal requirements.

9. NETWORK DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Within the design process, the principles of sound health and safety management should be taken fully into account, to ensure the electrical system can be constructed, maintained and operated safely and effectively. Reference should be made to relevant Regulations, including the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994.

9.1 SECURITY OF SUPPLY

The minimum design requirement will satisfy Engineering Recommendation P2/5¹, comply with the PowerSystem's policy as detailed in this document and will ensure the technical and performance characteristics of the existing network infrastructure are not compromised below PowerSystem's acceptable minimum standards. However it should be noted that P2/5 is not applicable to individual end customers (applies to Demand Groups) so specific solutions may be offered to meet an individual customer's requirements.

The connection of a new or additional load must not adversely effect the performance of the existing network or the security of supply provided to existing customers to levels below PowerSystem's minimum acceptable standards.

Applicants must ensure that customers are made aware of (and understand) all possible connection arrangements which can vary the level of supply security for specific connections. PowerSystems will recommend a minimum level of security believed appropriate to the customer's needs – known in this document as PowerSystems recommended design solution.

Security of supply issues include the ability to restore the network following a fault, the continuity of supply as construction proceeds and continuity of supply during maintenance of the local network. This may be particularly relevant to larger developments, where the alternative means of supply may not be available until completion of the final phase of the development, some years ahead. Networks shall be designed to limit the number of customers affected by any fault and to facilitate the shortest restoration and repair times. Likewise, networks shall be designed to minimise system losses.

¹ Engineering Recommendation P2/5 is currently under review and will be superseded by P2/6 of which all designs will adhere to.

9.2 PLANT EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

All plant, equipment and materials and their associated installation shall comply with the appropriate specifications for work in the Company's network areas. These are available upon request and cover such matters as the installation requirements, the arrangement of equipment at the Service termination and the depths / lateral position of cables and ducts.

Only PowerSystems Approved plant, equipment and materials shall be used. Only NEW plant, equipment and materials shall be installed unless prior agreement is obtained from PowerSystems. For further information reference should be made to the document: Materials specification framework for Greenfield low voltage housing estate underground network installations and associated, new, HV/LV distribution substations.

Under no circumstances shall plant rated with non-standard Company system voltages be connected to the distribution network.

9.3 ESTABLISHING THE POINT OF CONNECTION

PowerSystems will provide an indicative Point of Connection onto the Company network based on the load information provided by the Applicant (refer to Appendix A and B). PowerSystems will carry out the necessary system design to specify the lowest cost practical point(s) of connection to the existing distribution system. For housing developments, the Point of Connection will normally be either an existing low voltage Main(s), the outgoing fuseway(s) of an existing low voltage substation or an existing high voltage Main(s) (requiring a secondary substation).

Upstream from the Point of Connection, PowerSystems will design high voltage or high voltage / low voltage systems as appropriate and will advise:

- (a) The characteristics of the high / low voltage system at the point(s) of connection.
- (b) Any additional requirements for low voltage and high voltage Mains cables through the site and any diversionary works required to accommodate the site.
- (c) Where appropriate and if provided with sufficient information, the type and approximate preferred location of substation(s).

The objective is to provide sufficient information to enable the high / low voltage distribution system design and layout to be undertaken beyond the point(s) of connection by the applicant.

Where appropriate, an estimate will be provided for reinforcement of the existing upstream distribution system to accommodate the additional load at the point(s) of connection.

9.4 LV DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

As a minimum, the design shall ensure that the following requirements are met (these are discussed in more detail later within this document).

Each domestic property and streetlight is afforded a standard connection arrangement that meets the technical requirements of voltage, frequency and loop impedance. Suitable Approved customer isolator switches shall be installed at the Service position.

The electrical installation beyond the Point of Connection for dwellings and street lighting shall comply with 16th Edition Wiring regulations, BS7671. Code of practice for earthing BS7430 and where relevant (SP Manweb plc area) W547 'Notes of Guidance for Installation Designers and Electrical Contractors.'

The distributors must be designed to experience a balanced load that is within their rating. The design must be such that the substation fuses will operate to clear faults on the distributors and Services. Only Company Approved fuse sizes and types shall be used. A full listing of Approved fuse types is in document SWG-02-008, Approved Equipment Register – Switch gear section.

To assist in customer restoration during LV cable faults a maximum of 75 Customers shall be connected to a radial LV feeder. LV feeders with a Customer count in excess of this shall be provided with a suitable backfeed. However in certain circumstances and where reasonably practicable PowerSystems can insist on a suitable backfeed for LV feeders with less than 75 Customers. This backfeed can be controlled from the same substation.

Cables with 75 customers or more and cables used as backfeeds shall be a minimum conductor cross sectional area of 185mm².

9.5 HV NETWORK AND SUBSTATION DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

As a minimum, the design shall ensure that the following requirements are met. Where relevant, these are discussed in more detail within this document.

- (a) HV cables for network extensions shall be selected to ensure that there is no de-rating of the existing overall circuit and shall be of an Approved design.
- (b) Only PowerSystems Approved, 500 kVA and 1000 kVA 3 phase transformers are acceptable depending on the overall load. In LV networks operating interconnected (eg SP Manweb plc's X - t ype network), only 500 kVA transformers shall be used.
- (c) In areas where 6.6 kV networks exist, dual ratio (11/ 6.6 kV) transformers shall be installed. Similarly dual ratio transformers will be required for networks operating at 6kV or 6.3kV.
- (d) For smaller sites **in rural areas** having a total ADMD load less than 200 kVA, an Approved pole-mounted transformer arrangement may be used. In such cases, 200 kVA, 100 kVA, 50 kVA 3-phase transformer sizes and 50 kVA or 25 kVA single-phase transformers are acceptable.

For the purpose of housing developments only, the transformer nameplate ratings as detailed in (b) and (d) above may be exceeded by cyclic loads up to a maximum of 30% for a 6 hour period in any 24 hours providing that the remainder of that time the transformer is loaded to no more than 80% of its nameplate rating.

- (e) All HV overhead lines shall be designed to the relevant PowerSystems specification.
- (f) The HV network connection for both pole mounted transformers and HV overhead lines shall only be to a radial HV circuit with suitable protection complying with paragraph (g). Neither pole mounted transformers nor HV overhead lines shall be directly connected to interconnected HV circuits in the SP Manweb plc area. To meet these requirements it may be necessary to establish a new radial HV circuit through the installation of Approved HV switchgear.
- (g) The source circuit breaker protecting HV pole mounted equipment (including pole mounted transformers, cable terminations, etc) shall be equipped with earth fault protection. The circuit breaker protecting one or more spans of HV overhead line shall be equipped with sensitive earth fault protection.
- (h) Transformers shall never be directly breched onto the HV Main and shall always be connected via Approved HV switchgear that provides transformer protection (fuses or circuit breaker).

-
- (i) New substations will be looped into the HV network, as shown in Figure 1, when one of the following criteria is satisfied.
- 250 Customers or more (or 500 kVA equivalent load)
 - 200 customers or more and 250m or less from the 11kV point of connection
 - 150 customers or more and 150m or less from the 11kV point of connection
 - 100 customers or more and 100m or less from the 11kV point of connection
- (j) On cables, a maximum of one underground cable breach connection feeding new switchgear is allowed between HV points of isolation unless otherwise agreed with PowerSystems.
- (k) The recommended design solution may change if any engineering or technical constraints apply. For example in a solkor zone with an existing in-zone connected transformer the minimum available option would then be based upon Figure 2. N.B. in this scenario, additional technical guidance should be sought from PowerSystems.
- (l) A unit substation will comprise of a unit type transformer, a direct coupled HV ring main unit and transformer mounted LV fuse cabinet usually housed in an Approved compact weatherproof housing placed on a concrete plinth. Unit substations will be used in all situations except in parts of Manweb plc's Network where further guidance will be issued where solkor protection and full Interconnection is specified by PowerSystems. Requirements for secondary substations are detailed in Secondary Substation Specification and Installation SUB-02-006.
- (m) Construction of secondary substations may be included within the scope of the contestable work, with the point(s) of connection being on the Company's existing high voltage system. The following considerations apply when determining the location of the new substation:
- 1. The substation shall have suitable 24-hour access/egress for PowerSystems Authorised personnel.**
 - 2. The substation shall have suitable 24-hour street-level vehicular access/egress for Company Equipment.**
 3. Should be on the site being supplied, on land owned by the local highway authority (i.e. Public) or on land owned by the Company. Prior to energisation of the substation the land shall be transferred into the ownership of the Company and the building be classed as a network substation.
 4. The substation shall normally be located as near as physically possible to the centre of the load it supplies. However, where the low voltage mains are to be operated interconnected, the substation should be approximately equidistant between the existing secondary substations.

5. Consideration should be given to environmental factors such as noise pollution, risk of flooding, vandalism, etc.

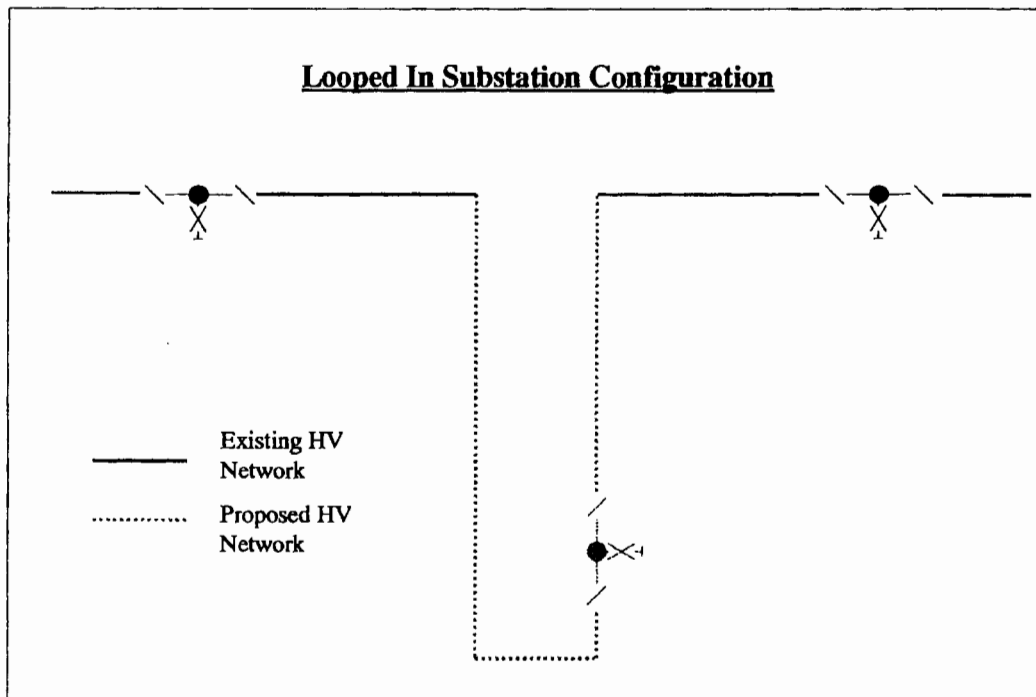


Figure 1

- (n) In order to comply with the CDM regulations, consideration shall be given to performing additional LV work prior to energising the substation. This would apply where it is known that this additional work will be required and a shutdown will be avoided. Hence, on ground mounted substations with fully enclosed LV boards short lengths of LV Mains cables pot-ended no less than 2 m outside the substation building shall be installed on each spare way. These cables will be a minimum of 300mm² conductor cross sectional area Waveform in SP Distribution Ltd. and in SP Manweb plc 185mm² conductor cross sectional area Waveform for transformers up to and including 500kVA and 300mm² conductor cross sectional area waveform for transformer sizes above 500kVA.

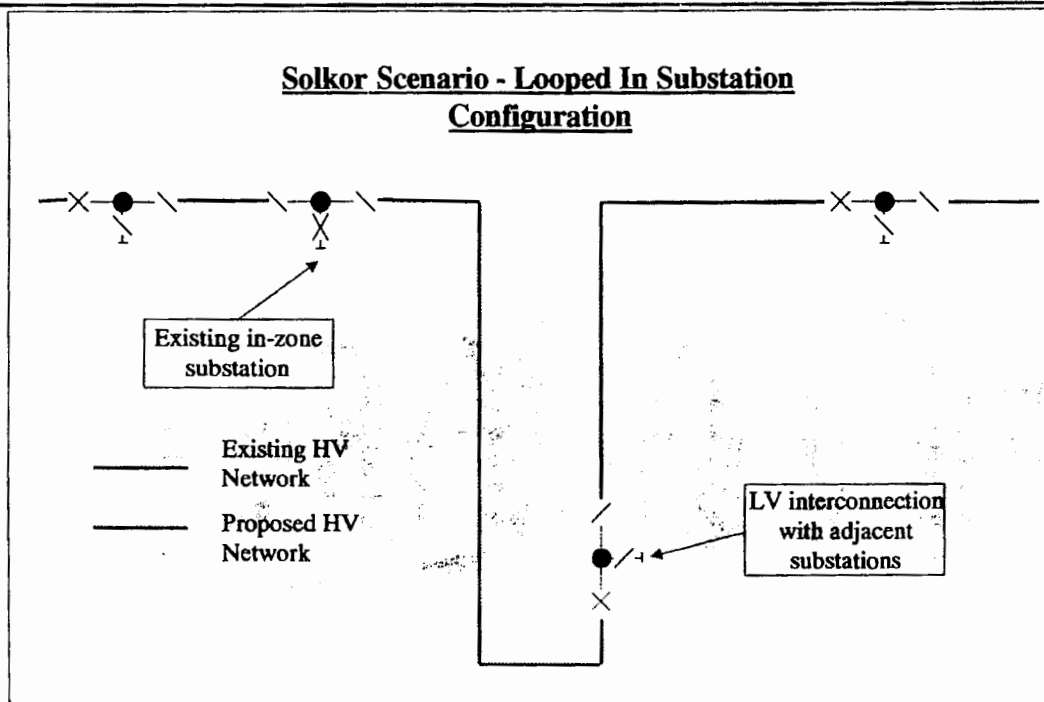


Figure 2

9.6 SUB STATION INTERCONNECTION APPROACH

Substations should be interconnected on the low voltage network to facilitate maintenance of substation plant and to speed post fault restoration. Interconnection by LV cables should normally be provided to the extent of one third of the substation's ultimate load providing an accessible LV source is available.

It is to be assumed that the normal load on the interconnecting LV cables is reduced to one third of their maximum connected load when assessing the available Interconnection capacity. Link Boxes if used are only to be provided at points where it is necessary to provide Interconnection and the number of cableways should not normally exceed two. However, their use should not be encouraged and all other design options must be considered before they are installed. **Network Pillars shall not be used.**

In order to comply with the CDM regulations, consideration shall be given to performing additional LV work prior to energising Link Boxes. This would apply where it is known that this additional work will be required and a shutdown will be avoided. Hence while installing Link Boxes where not all the cableways will be utilised LV mains cables pot-ended no less than 2 m from the Link Box shall be installed on each spare way. These cables will be a minimum of 185mm² conductor cross sectional area Waveform in SP Distribution Ltd. and in SP Manweb plc.

The system would normally run with links / fuses on interconnected circuits removed.

9.7 SPECIFIC INTERCONNECTION ISSUES IN PARTS OF THE SP MANWEB PLC NETWORK AREA

In parts of the SP Manweb plc network area, full Interconnection is possible due to the historically applied network design philosophy. In such areas the SP Manweb plc system would normally run with links / fuses on Interconnected circuits inserted in such a manner that the substation load can be fully supported by LV Interconnection during HV outages. However, new network extensions do not always require full Interconnection and the Company will provide site-specific guidance where it is considered necessary.

When designing Interconnection between secondary substations it is necessary to consider both the LV and HV networks since not all substations can be operated with low voltage Interconnection. Where practicable in unit protected schemes at least 3 fuseways per substation should provide Interconnection with 3 other substations. Link Boxes are only to be provided at points where it is necessary to provide Interconnection and the number of cableways should not normally exceed four. All other design options must be considered before they are installed and guidance sought from PowerSystems. In order to reduce the lifting and handling issues, 2 way Link Boxes should be used where possible in preference to 4 way. **Network Pillars shall not be used.**

An LV cable used to interconnect substations should connect a fuseway in one substation to a fuseway in up to two other substations. Where interconnectors are direct from substation to one other substation and 315 Amp fuses are used, the cable length between the two substations should not exceed 786 m of 185mm² conductor cross sectional area waveform cable.

On existing LV networks it may not be practicable to achieve adequate Interconnection without using three circuits, each from a different substation to feed into a common interconnector. However, all designs must ensure it is not possible for an LV fault to be fed from more than three separate 315 Amp fuseways. Where three substations feed into a common interconnector, the cable length between any two substations should not exceed 545 m of 185 mm² conductor cross sectional area waveform cable.

In networks utilising full Interconnection the maximum cable run lengths highlighted in Table 1 shall not be exceeded.

Substation Fuse Size (Amps)	Configuration of LV Mains	Cable Size	Maximum Length (metres)
315	Pure Radial	95W	328
315	Pure Radial	185W	728
400	Pure Radial	300W	710
315	Two way interconnector	185W	786
400	Two way interconnector	185W	605
315	Three way interconnector	185W	545
400	Three way interconnector	185W	421

Table 1-- Maximum Cable lengths

It shall not be possible for more than one fuseway in a particular secondary substation to feed into the same LV fault. The design shall ensure that the LV network design short circuit level is not exceeded. (As a guide the short circuit level of 25 MVA is reached with 5 substations, each with 5 x 100 m long 95 mm² conductor cross sectional area waveform interconnectors).

9.8 PHASED DEVELOPMENTS

The Applicant shall consider the future development of the HV and LV system. Where further phases of the housing development are planned this should be taken into account when determining the rating and location of apparatus. This approach avoids excavation and reinstatement of recently constructed road and pavements. The Applicant shall discuss with the housing developer the costs and benefits of additional features to reduce the need to re-excavate new reinstatement and features to improve customer's security of supply.

At all times the PowerSystems shall:

- Take steps to minimise overall expenditure (although it is for customers / developers to consider (and make) investments in infrastructure which minimise their overall costs).
- Take all reasonable steps to make such opportunities visible to developers.
- Consider the implications of operational / performance constraints that will apply to the final overall development and take steps to minimise the total cost of complying with these constraints.

Where the same developer is involved in successive phases of a development, they can minimise their overall costs by making early provision for future phases. For example, locating a substation in the centre of the overall development rather than in the centre of the first phase.

10. DETAILED DESIGN GUIDANCE

The design electrical requirements for single-occupied domestic properties shall ensure the technical requirements described in Table 2 are met.

The standard Company Service arrangement for single-occupied premises shall be used. Appropriate metering shall be provided.

The following considerations apply when agreeing the Service termination position for each property with the developer:

- (a) The Service position shall be situated in the premises being supplied and a Service cable shall be installed from the Mains / Distributor to each property 'Looped Services' shall not be used.
- (b) The Service cable shall be as short as practicable. The Service position should be on the wall of the house as close as possible to the LV mains cable.
- (c) All Service position equipment including the metering equipment shall be fixed to a meter board of resin bonded compressed wood chipboard (or other Approved material). The cabling between the Customer's main switchgear(consumer unit) and the switch disconnecter/neutral block where applicable shall not exceed 2 metres. There will only be one set of conductors between the switch disconnecter and Customer's switchgear.
- (d) Meter tails from the cut out to the meter shall be a minimum of 25mm² conductor cross sectional area double insulated, single core, stranded copper conductor, PVC insulated and PVC sheathed cable core insulation of the phase conductors red and the neutral black. Meter tails shall be as short as practicable and no more than 2 m in length.
- (e) A meter board will be provided of minimum size 600 x 300 x 12 mm or a size suitable for the purpose. Please refer to the Materials Specification framework for Greenfield low voltage housing estate installations and associated new HV/LV distribution substations (Ref. **EPS-03-027**).
The board shall be installed such that
 - The bottom is a minimum of 500mm above floor level
 - The top is a maximum of 2m above floor level
 - A minimum of 750mm-access space is available in front of the board.
 - It is directly above the Service entry tube
 - Spacer tubes are fitted to ensure the board is mounted clear of the wall to avoid problems from a damp wall
- (f) The IEE Wiring Regulations 16th Edition states in Section 528 'Proximity to Other Services'

- 528-02-03 'Where a wiring system is routed near a Service liable to cause condensation (such as water, steam or gas Services) precautions shall be taken to protect the wiring system from deleterious effects.'
- 528-02-04 'Where a wiring system is to installed in proximity to non electrical Services it shall be arranged that any foreseeable operation carried out on either Service will not cause damage to the other'

Company termination equipment will be physically separate from water or gas equipment. Where reasonable practicable in separate cupboards but at least 300mm apart and not above or below.

- (g) Outdoor meter cabinets to new developments shall not be fitted unless the Customer / developer specifically requests such a cabinet. In such circumstances, only Approved cabinets shall be used and the costs shall be charged to the Customer. The Customer shall retain ownership / maintenance responsibilities for the cabinet.

Characteristic	Value
Voltage	230 V (-6%, +10%)
Number of Phases	Single
Maximum Continuous Load	20 kVA (PF=1.0)
Service Cable	25 mm ² CNE or 35 mm ² CNE
Maximum Service Cable Voltage Drop	3 % (of 230 V)
Service Joint	Single, dual, triple or quad
Cut out rating	100 A
Cut out fuse rating	80A
Maximum Fault Level (single phase)	16 kA
Maximum Earth Loop Impedance	0.35 Ohms
Earthing System Provided to Customer	PME
Point of Connection	Outgoing Terminals of the Company's cut out

Table 2 – Single-Occupied Domestic Premises

10.1 SERVICE CABLES AND SERVICE DUCTS

The following considerations apply when designing the Service duct and Service cable route:

- (a) Each Service cable shall be run in a Company Approved 32 mm diameter polythene duct following a direct route with a continuous run length not exceeding 25 m unless

previously agreed with the Company from the Service position to the Service strip, avoiding land allocated to other plots / properties. Where outdoor meter cabinets are used then entry to the Service position shall be via a Company Approved 'hockey-stick' lead-in tube.

- (b) This will be installed such that.
- It is terminated level with the top of the flooring board
 - It is positioned to one side of the Service termination board.
 - A minimum bending radius of 450mm shall be used in the situation where the Service cable tube is bent upwards into the Service position.
 - The Service termination tube shall be installed during the preparation of the ground on a route agreed with PowerSystems. It shall be laid in a straight and continuous length from the edge of the property to the Service termination position.
 - Apart from the joint at the end of a hockey stick, Service cable tubes shall be free from joints and repairs.
 - The wall around the Service cable tube shall be sealed against the influx of gas at the point of entry to the external wall.
 - On installation of the service cable, both ends of the Service cable tube shall be adequately sealed using Densylmastic, or other suitable methods to protect against the influx of gas or water.
- (c) Where Services cross roads, they shall be run in 100-mm ducts with a maximum of two Service cables per duct. The ends of 100-mm ducts shall avoid the driveways of properties

10.2 STREET LIGHTING SERVICES

The electrical design requirements shall ensure the technical requirements shown in Table 3 are met.

The Approved unmetered Service arrangement for streetlights shall be used. Service cables and ducts shall be installed in accordance with the Company's installation specification. The lighting authority specifies either individual street light connections / connection from a street lighting pillar or from a cabinet.

In the SP Manweb plc network area, supplies are normally made available to specific street lighting columns. However, in the SP Distribution Limited network area 3 phase supplies are made available to street lighting cabinets. The developer then installs the street lighting from that point.

Characteristic	Street Lighting Cabinet	Street Lighting Column
	Value	Value
Voltage	400 V (-6%, +10%)	230 V (-6%, +10%)
Number of Phases	three phase	single phase
Maximum Continuous Load	60 kVA (PF=1.0)	2 kVA (PF=1.0)
Service Cable	25 mm ² CNE or 35mm ² CNE	4 mm ² CNE
Maximum Service Cable Voltage Drop	3% (of 230 V)	3% (of 230 V)
Service Joint	Single	Single
Cut out rating	100 A	25 A
Cut out fuse rating	80A	16 A
Maximum Fault Level	35 kA	16 kA
Maximum Earth Loop Impedance	0.35 Ohms	0.35 Ohms
Earthing System Provided to Customer	PME	PME
Point of Connection	Outgoing Terminals of Cut-Out	Outgoing Terminals of Cut-Out

Table 3 – Street Lighting

10.3 HIGH / LOW VOLTAGE MAINS CABLES

All new network designs and cable laying practices shall comply with the New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA) and the National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) Guidelines on the positioning and colour coding of Utilities' apparatus.

The following criteria apply when designing the route of the Mains cables:

- (a) Shall run in an area of the site which is to be adopted by the local highway authority, normally the footpath or Service Strip. Easements (England and Wales), Servitudes (Scotland) or Wayleaves shall be obtained in the Company's name for equipment in land that is not to be adopted by the local highway authority.
- (b) Shall consider future requirements (i.e. additional phases to the development).
- (c) Road crossings shall be via 150 mm or 100 mm ducts, these shall cross roads at 90 degrees to the road centre-line. Spare road crossing ducts shall be provided on the basis of one spare duct for each voltage level of the cables in the road crossing.

-
- (d) Ducted runs should not exceed 30 m unless agreed in advance with the Company.
 - (e) The ends of ducts shall avoid the driveways of properties.
 - (f) Service Strips / Footpaths should be 2 m wide.
 - (g) If cost-effective, the HV trench shall be used for both HV & LV cables.
 - (h) All joint positions shall avoid the driveways of properties.
 - (i) LV mains cable will be no less than 95mm² conductor cross sectional area waveform cable. Cables used as backfeeds / interconnectors / to Link Boxes will be a minimum of 185mm² conductor cross sectional area waveform cable.
 - (j) 95mm² conductor cross sectional area cable HV cable will only be used to feed switchgear controlling a transformer only. It will not be used as part of the 11kV / 6.6kV ring.

10.4 DEMAND ESTIMATION

The methodology for calculating the demand set-out here applies to the typical situation where there is no existing LV system. Further guidance should be sought where this is not the case. The site maximum demand shall be calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Site Maximum Demand} = (\text{ADMD}_w \times N) + 18 \text{ kW}$$

Where

- ADMD_w is the weighted average After Diversity Maximum Demand (ADMD) per house.
- N is the ultimate number of houses

For example, the ADMD_w figure shall represent the weighted average ADMD_w for the number and type of houses. For example, if it is planned to connect 20 houses with an ADMD of 2.3 kW and 60 with an ADMD of 1.9 kW, the weighted average ADMD_w used would be 2 kW.

The demand on each LV cable shall be calculated using the same methodology as set out above taking account of the appropriate weighted average ADMD.

The specific ADMD figures to be used will vary depending on the type of heating scheme installed. For example, electrically heated dwellings should use the total installed heating load (including water heating) as the basis of determining an appropriate ADMD. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to correctly assess the ADMD of the individual houses and overall site. These figures and calculations must be declared to the Company.

Table 4 shows factors to be considered for electric heating schemes and Table 5 for non-electrically heated dwellings.

Type of heating	H	ADMD to be rounded up to nearest 0.5kW (kW)
Storage radiators / panel heaters	Total heating load including water heating, storage and panel	$0.6H + 2$
Storage central heating boilers	Total value of installed storage space heating only	$H + 3$

Table 4- Example ADMD Data for electrically heated houses

Type of Heating	Type of House	Annual Consumption (kWh)	ADMD (kW)
Gas Hot Water and Central Heating and 3kW Immersion Heater	Detached	5000	2.3
	Semi, Terrace, Bungalows, Flat, Maisonette	3500	1.9

Table 5- Example ADMD Data for Non electrically heated houses

ADMD should be rounded up to the nearest 0.5kW and be subject to a minimum of 2kW for domestic connections.

10.5 CABLE RATING

The ratings of Approved HV and LV cables as detailed in Appendix D shall not be exceeded using the maximum design loading.

10.6 QUALITY OF SUPPLY

The supply industry endeavours to provide Customers with a pure sinusoidal voltage at a frequency of 50Hz. Increasing numbers of electric and electronic appliances are sensitive to distortion of the supply waveform. This distortion is caused by these appliances and others taking current for only part of each cycle and the cumulative effect is to distort the waveform.

Network designers have to ensure proposed loads do not affect other Customers.

- (a) **Minimum Voltage:** The maximum voltage limit does not normally impact on the design of the LV Mains cables, however the minimum voltage limit is a key design requirement. The Company will advise the minimum design voltage at the HV or LV Point of Connection. Where the Point of Connection is the substation LV bus bar the minimum design voltage will normally be +2.5% (235.75 V). The voltage limits will then be met with a maximum Mains cable and Service cable voltage drop of 8.5% (which would give a 6% drop on 230 V). The design of the new LV Mains

- cable shall ensure the 8.5% voltage drop limit is not exceeded with an overall maximum demand in accordance with the approved voltage drop calculation method (see below) whilst, simultaneously, any individual Service is subjected to its maximum rating. In addition, the maximum voltage drop from the substation LV bars to the most remote Service joint shall not exceed 5.5% under this design loading condition.
- (b) **Unbalanced Voltages:** Unbalance of the magnitude of three phase voltages can occur due to unequal loading of the three phases. For example housing Services should be connected evenly over the three phases utilising R,Y,B,B,Y,R. Engineering Recommendation P29 gives further guidance on voltage imbalance.
 - (d) **Rapid Voltage Change and rapid Voltage Fluctuations:** Load switching, lifts, water or sewerage pumps or motor starting currents can cause rapid voltage change, similarly industrial loads such as welding plant can cause rapid voltage fluctuations. Applicants will have to demonstrate to PowerSystems that the principles in ER P28 have been applied to ensure disturbance to customers is kept to a minimum.
 - (d) **dc Component:** dc currents can be induced by semi-conductor devices installed in both domestic and industrial premises. Although no limiting value is set, it is recommended that in all instances the dc component should be reduced to a minimum.
 - (e) **Harmonic Distortion:** The flow of harmonic currents in the system causes distortion of the voltage waveform that can result in overheating of motors or cause malfunctioning of electronic equipment. Applicants will have to demonstrate to PowerSystems that the requirements detailed in Engineering Recommendation G5/4 are fully adhered to.

Applicants will have to demonstrate to PowerSystems that the proposed design meets all the quality of supply requirements detailed above.

10.7 APPROVED VOLTAGE DROP CALCULATION METHOD

The total LV mains cable voltage drop shall be calculated by aggregating the voltage drops on each branch of an LV feeder, from the substation to the most remote point. The load assumed for each branch being given by the formula:

$$\text{Design Load on Each Branch} = N_b \times \text{ADMD}_w + 18 \text{ kW}$$

Where

- N_b is the number of houses on the branch
- ADMD_w is the weighted average ADMD per house

A copy of the voltage drop calculation, with a branch and node diagram cross-referenced to the proposed layout shall be presented as part of the design for approval.

10.8 LOW VOLTAGE EARTHING AND BONDING

New low voltage distribution systems will meet the requirements of the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002. Part VII, Supplies to installations and other networks, Section 24, Equipment on consumer's premises (4) states.

'Unless he can reasonably conclude that it is inappropriate for reasons of safety, a distributor shall, when providing a new connection at low voltage, make available his supply neutral conductor, or if appropriate, the protective conductor of his network for connection to the protective conductor to the consumers installation.'

New single-occupied domestic premises shall be designed for protective multiple earthing. A PME earth terminal shall be made available at the Service termination where appropriate. It should be noted that there are situations where the Company will not provide an earth terminal.

Full details of the Company's earthing requirements can be obtained in guidance notes G12/3² and the PowerSystems Distribution Low Voltage Earthing Manual DOC-00-217.

10.9 SHORT CIRCUIT CURRENTS

The maximum earth loop impedance and maximum short circuit fault level at each Service termination shall meet the requirements set out in Tables 2 & 3.

Unless otherwise advised, the maximum design three phase short circuit currents at the relevant voltage levels on the Company's network are:

- 35 kA (25 MVA) on the low voltage (400 V) system
- 13.1 kA (150 MVA) on the 6.6 kV system
- 13.1 kA (250 MVA) on the 11 kV system

N.B. There may be points within the system where high network density or close proximity to a grid supply point / generating stations leads to higher fault levels than those stated above. In such cases equipment of suitable short circuit duty must be installed.

HRC fuses at the substation protect low voltage mains cables. In order that the fuses shall operate to clear a fault at the most remote point on the LV main, the minimum phase to neutral short circuit current available shall be 3 times the substation fuse rating.

² Engineering Recommendation G12/3 is currently under review and will be superseded by G12/4 of which all designs will adhere to.

11. DESIGN APPROVAL

Where the Company is to adopt the new distribution system, the proposed design shall be Approved by PowerSystems (allowing sufficient time for any revisions) before commencing on-site construction.

Power Systems have introduced an Internet based electronic registration and management system (C-RAM) to assist in the management of connection processes and documentation from application to completion. C-RAM enables electronic posting of all project documentation and full audit facilities to both Connectors and PowerSystems. Connectors wishing to use this system should contact Power Systems connections.

In most cases the development of a full detailed design will be a two-stage process. The Applicant will submit an outline proposal (see Appendix A) providing sufficient detail to enable PowerSystems to indicate the most suitable Point of Connection to the network given the information provided. This will then enable the Applicant to undertake a full detailed design, which can be submitted to PowerSystems for approval as the final proposal see Appendix C. Having received this information PowerSystems will assess the design and prepare a formal quote for non contestable works of the project.

Where an applicant requires a firm quotation for non-contestable works prior to full design approval PowerSystems require the information in Appendix B. This will enable PowerSystems to issue Point of Connection to the network details and issue a formal quote for non contestable works. For full design approval the information in Appendix C is still required.

There are three possible options when the Company responds to the design; these are set out in Table 6.

Technical Requirements	Additional Requirements	Response
Proposed design does not comply with the requirements set-out in this document	-	Not approved, with explanation.
Proposed design complies with the requirements set-out in this document	The Company does not require additional work	Approved
	The Company Limited requires additional work	Approved, subject to additional work being included.

Table 6 – Design Approval

Only designs fully approved by the Company shall be constructed.

**APPENDIX A – MINIMUM INFORMATION TEMPLATE FOR INDICATIVE
CONNECTION COST.**

In order to generate an **indicative Cost of Connection of New Housing Development** the following minimum information will be required:

Location Plan	Including OS map reference, of a suitable size and scale (normally 1:2500 or 1:1250) to allow the location of the proposed development against other surrounding features.
Number of houses	
Phasing of development and initial connection date of each phase	
Heating type	E.g. gas/oil/storage heating/electric, etc.
Estimated individual demand	
Estimated total peak demand for the development	
Site layout plan	If available.
Where known details of future new related developments	
Applicants suggested / proposed connection point	

APPENDIX B – MINIMUM INFORMATION TEMPLATE FOR QUOTATION.

Quotation request for connection of Low Voltage Housing Estates Installations & Associated HV / LV Distribution Substations

Please note the following:

- This template does not relate to multi-occupied premises, which are covered separately.
- Although Appendix A will allow an indicative cost for outline design purposes to be generated, the more detailed information specified in Appendix B will enable an accurate design to be undertaken by the Company. In some cases this may differ in cost from the original outline design quotation. To avoid / minimise such differences, it is strongly recommended that Appendix B information be provided up front as part of the initial enquiry.

Main Area	Component details
Applicant(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, address, contact details • Contractor(s) – indicating their NERS accreditation as detailed in Power Systems New Connection Contractor Approval Policy Asset-01-01 • Landowner • Solicitor of Landowner • Architect/Consultant
Location/environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location/postal address/OS map reference. • Known details of future new related developments.
Overall size/type of development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of properties. • Number by type of housing/mix (no. of bedrooms, house/flat type etc) and any issues relating to supply security e.g. sheltered housing, etc. • Heating type (space/water).
Phasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase(s) of development. • Initial connection date of each phase. • Estimated completion date of each phase.
Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested/proposed connection point. • Landlords connection(s) required.
Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated individual dwelling demand including individual maximum power requirements kVA or kW per property, ADMD per property (with supporting evidence) and details relating to type and electrical loading of equipment to be connected. For example, the number and size of motors, cookers, showers, space and water heating arrangements including details of equipment which is subject to switching by the Supplier (e.g. white meter, economy 7 or option heating schemes). • Estimated total site demand. • Estimated electric space heating load (off/on peak). • Associated street lighting (nos.) Un-metered supplies should be highlighted with classes and maximum demands.

APPENDIX C – MINIMUM INFORMATION TEMPLATE FOR DESIGN APPROVAL AND QUOTATION.

Quotation request for connection and design approval of Low Voltage Housing Estates Installations & Associated HV / LV Distribution Substations

Please note the following:

- This template does not relate to multi-occupied premises, which are covered separately.
- Although Appendix A will allow an indicative cost for outline design purposes to be generated, the more detailed information specified in Appendix C will enable an accurate design to be undertaken by the Company. In some cases this may differ in cost from the original outline design quotation. To avoid / minimise such differences, it is strongly recommended that Appendix B information be provided up front as part of the initial enquiry.
- PowerSystems can respond to a request for design approval in three ways: Not Approved. Explanation given by PowerSystems; Approved, or: Approved subject to additional work being included.

Main Area	Component details
Applicant(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, address, contact details • Contractor(s) – indicating their NERS accreditation as detailed in Power Systems New Connection Contractor Approval Policy Asset-01-015 • Landowner • Solicitor of Landowner • Architect/Consultant
Location/environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location/postal address/OS map reference. • Known details of future new related developments.
Overall size/type of development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of properties. • Number by type of housing/mix (no. of bedrooms, house/flat type etc) and any issues relating to supply security e.g. sheltered housing, etc. • Heating type (space/water).
Phasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase(s) of development. • Initial connection date of each phase. • Estimated completion date of each phase.
Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested/proposed connection point. • Landlord's connection(s) required.
Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated individual dwelling demand including individual maximum power requirements kVA or kW per property, ADMD per property (with supporting evidence) and details relating to type and electrical loading of equipment to be connected. For example, the number and size of motors, cookers, showers, space and water heating arrangements including details of equipment which is subject to switching by the Supplier (e.g. white meter, economy 7 or option heating schemes). • Estimated total site demand.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated electric space heating load (off/on peak). • Associated street lighting (nos.) Un-metered supplies should be highlighted with classes and maximum demands.
Details/drawings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 copies of a site location plan of suitable size and scale (1:2500 or 1:1250 as appropriate) to indicate location of development against other surrounding features. • 2 copies of a layout drawing on 1:500 scale plan(s) showing the layout and details such as cable sizes, etc of all proposed electrical apparatus shown against the new roads and housing proposal. Details of proposed substation locations, adopted areas and meter positions shall also be marked. The phase (red, yellow or blue) that each Service is to be connected must be shown. • 2 copies of a 1:500 plan showing Service and cable duct routes across the site. • 2 copies of a 1:500 plan showing detailed boundaries of any land/building to be transferred to Distribution Licence Holder (DLH) ownership and of any line/cable routes that will be subject to wayleaves / easements. • 2 copies of overall development layout if phased. • Drawing indicating the location of the temporary builder supply (if applicable). • Drawing showing street lighting proposals (if applicable and agreed with relevant Highway Authority).
Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum and actual design PSCCs at connection of Service to main and Design PSCC at LV busbars of HV/LV transformer (kA). • Voltage drop, loop impedance, site ADMD (After Diversity Maximum Demand) and for each feeder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of customers and connections on each phase. - Maximum feeder load in Amps. - Fuse selected and maximum clearance time for a phase to earth fault at cut out. - Maximum voltage regulation at cut out position (+ and -). - Maximum earth loop resistance and maximum voltage unbalance.
Inventory of Plant, Equipment and Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A full itinerary of equipment, plant and materials to be installed including types, sizes and ratings employed.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of Supplier if known. • Details of any land contamination issues / specific on-site Health and Safety issues requiring abnormal working requirements.



PowerSystems

Framework for design and planning for low voltage housing developments underground network installations and associated, new, HV/LV distribution substations

ESDD-02-012
Issue No. 2

APPENDIX D – CABLE ELECTRICAL & RATING DATA

Cable Electrical & Rating Data for 11kV 1-Core XLPE cable

Conductor CSA (sqmm)	Cyclic Rating Factor	Cable Ratings (Amps)*				Cable Impedance Data (Ohms/km)			Capacitance (uF/km)
		Laid Direct Continuous	Cyclic	Ducted Continuous	Cyclic	Max DC resistance per phase @ 20 degC	Max AC resistance per phase @ 65 degC & 50Hz	Reactance @ 50Hz	
95	1.11	245	272	208	231	0.320	0.413	0.110	0.290
185	1.12	353	395	300	336	0.164	0.215	0.086	0.370
300	1.12	461	516	392	439	0.100	0.133	0.071	0.450

Derating factors for groups of cables**	
No of Cables	Derating factor
1	1.00
2	0.89
3	0.80
4	0.77

** Based on spacing between cables = 300mm

* Ratings are based on the following conditions (single core cables laid in trefoil and bonded at both ends)	
	Depth of cover (m)
	0.6
Ambient ground temperature (degC)	
	15
Soil thermal resistivity (degKm/W)	
	1.2



Cable Electrical & Rating Data for 11kV 3-Core XLPE cable

Conductor CSA (sqmm)	Cyclic Rating Factor	Cable Ratings (Amps)*				Cable Impedance Data (Ohms/km)			Capacitance (uF/km)
		Laid Direct		Ducted		Max DC resistance per phase @ 20 degC	Max AC resistance per phase @ 65 degC & 50Hz	Reactance @ 50Hz	
		Continuous	Cyclic	Continuous	Cyclic				
95	1.11	235	261	200	222	0.320	0.408	0.099	0.310
185	1.12	335	375	290	325	0.164	0.210	0.088	0.420
300	1.12	435	487	380	426	0.100	0.129	0.082	0.480

Derating factors for groups of cables**	
No of Cables	Derating factor
1	1.00
2	0.89
3	0.80
4	0.77

** Based on spacing between cables = 300mm

* Ratings are based on the following conditions (single core cables laid in trefoil and bonded at both ends)	
	Depth of cover (m)
	0.6
Ambient ground temperature (degC)	15
Soil thermal resistivity (degKm/W)	1.2



PowerSystems

Framework for design and planning for low voltage housing developments underground network installations and associated, new, HV/LV distribution substations

ESDD-02-012

Issue No. 2

Cable Electrical & Rating Data for 11kV PICAS cable

Conductor CSA (sqmm)	Cyclic Rating Factor	Cable Ratings (Amps)*			Cable Impedance Data (Ohms/km)			Capacitance (uF/km)	
		Laid Direct		Ducted	Max DC resistance per phase @ 20 degC	Max AC resistance per phase @ 65 degC & 50Hz	Reactance @ 50Hz		
		Continuous	Cyclic						Continuous
95	1.11	185	205	160	178	0.320	0.379	0.087	0.450
185	1.12	270	302	230	258	0.164	0.195	0.080	0.580
300	1.12	355	398	305	342	0.100	0.120	0.077	0.710

Derating factors for groups of cables**	
No of Cables	Derating factor
1	1.00
2	0.89
3	0.80
4	0.77

** Based on spacing between cables = 300mm

* Ratings are based on the following conditions (single core cables laid in trefoil and bonded at both ends)	
Ambient ground temperature (degC)	Depth of cover (m)
15	0.6
Soil thermal resistivity (degKm/W)	1.2



Cable Electrical & Rating Data for 3-core Waveform cable

Conductor CSA (sqmm)	Cyclic Rating Factor	Cable Ratings (Amps)*				Cable Impedance Data (Ohms/km)			Reactance @ 50Hz
		Laid Direct		Ducted		Max DC resistance per phase @ 20 degC	Max DC resistance of neutral/earth @ 20 degC	Max AC resistance per phase @ 80 degC & 50Hz	
		Continuous	Cyclic	Continuous	Cyclic				
95	1.15	235	270	190	219	0.320	0.320	0.398	0.0735
185	1.24	335	415	275	341	0.164	0.164	0.205	0.0740
300	1.28	435	557	360	461	0.100	0.164	0.126	0.0725

Derating factors for groups of cables**	
No of Cables	Derating factor
1	1.00
2	0.90
3	0.82
4	0.78

** Based on spacing between cables = 250mm

* Ratings are based on the following conditions (single core cables laid in trefoil and bonded at both ends)	
	Depth of cover (m)
	0.45
Ambient ground temperature (degC)	15
Soil thermal resistivity (degKm/W)	1.2



PowerSystems

Framework for design and planning for low
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Cable Electrical & Rating Data for LV CNE Service cable

Phases	Conductor CSA (sqmm)	Conductor material	Cable Ratings (Amps)*		Max DC resistance per phase @ 20 degC	Cable Impedance Data (Ohms/km)		
			Laid Direct	Ducted In Air		Max DC resistance of neutral/earth @ 20 degC	Max AC resistance per phase @ 80 degC & 50Hz	Reactance @ 50Hz
1	4	Cu	66	45	4.61	4.8	5.4	
1	25	Al	115	97	1.2	1.3	1.42	1.45
1	35	Al	140	120	0.868	0.91	1.02	1.05
3	25	Al	97	84	1.2	1.3	1.42	
3	35	Al	115	100	0.868	0.91	1.02	

* Ratings are based on the following conditions	
Depth of cover (m)	0.45
Ambient ground temperature (degC)	15
Soil thermal resistivity (degKm/W)	1.2

APPENDIX III

POC Quotations:- Format specified by the Electricity Connections Steering Group as referred to in the Ofgem August 2002 Decision Document.

PROFORMA POC QUOTATION LETTER

date

Dear Sirs,

Proposed Development: - xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thank you for your request for a quotation for the provision of a point of connection (POC), to the SP Manweb plc licence holders network, associated with the supply of electricity to the above development. SP Manweb plc as a licensed distributor of electricity has appointed SP Power Systems Limited (SPPS), to act as its agent regarding your request for a POC to the SP Manweb plc ; electricity distribution system.

The charge for connection is £xxxxxxx (VAT to be applied at the appropriate rate).

1. Based on SP Manweb plc adopting the constructed assets.
2. Excavation within existing network substations shall be by SP PowerSystems Ltd.
3. This quote excludes civil works, to be charged at an additional rate if required.
4. The above connection charge is valid for 3 months from the date on this letter based on the information you have provided and is subject to revision if that information changes. This charge does not include areas of special engineering difficulty (e.g. SSSI or contaminated land etc) or cost variances that cannot be reasonably foreseen (e.g. landscaping or existing footpath realignment etc). These issues must be represented by you in order to be factored into our quotation.
5. The connection charge is detailed in the breakdown - Appendix 1

A plan showing the point of connection(s) and point of interconnection(s) is enclosed.

Should you be successful in becoming the preferred utilities installer for this development, please confirm this in writing ASAP. On receipt of confirmation, we will provide you with a formal quotation, which will include the Company's Construction and Adoption agreement conditions.

If you require any further information relating to this letter, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Connections
SP PowerSystems Ltd

SPPS Works

POC - POINT OF CONNECTION AREA GRID REF. 000000, 000000

POI - POINT OF INTERCONNECTION AREA GRID REF. 000000, 000000

PROVISIONAL DIVERSIONARY WORKS

PROVISIONAL REINFORCEMENT WORKS

DISCRETIONARY WORK

OTHER INFORMATION

Your client may wish fire supplies derived from a different primary source. Please detail your solution showing compliance with all statutory regulations.

Independent Connection Provider - Contestable Works

The developer, or their appointed agent will carry out the following work subject to the necessary safety precautions, Consents & Wayleaves and other appropriate conditions & standards being satisfied:

1. Design of the connection downstream from the POC to the existing assets.
2. Consents & Wayleaves for connection assets including offsite to the POC's & POI's.
3. Procurement and provision of the required materials for the developer's works.
4. All excavation, trenching and reinstatement (whether temporary or permanent).
5. Provision and installation of all mains and service ducting.
6. All elements of the construction of the developer's works in accordance with, the Company's approved design and specifications.
7. Recording of work, location of cable routes and equipment on the site and the provision of this information to the Company in an approved format.
8. Making provision for the installation of metering equipment by an approved Meter Operator.
9. All jointing in accordance with the Company's approved design within the scope and authorisation level of the Company's current Safety Management Procedures.
10. Provision of a substation building and or the necessary plinths in accordance with the Company's specification.
11. Commissioning of connection assets.

The scope of these works will be described in detail within the Construction & Adoption agreement between the Company and the appointed installer.

CONTESTABLE LAND RIGHTS

Where obtaining land rights is contestable SP Manweb plc will make a charge to ensure that they comply with SP Manweb plc's requirements. Where you wish SPPS Wayleaves to obtain the land rights as your chosen contractor then please contact SPPS Wayleaves direct for a quotation for your design.

MINIMUM CONTESTABLE DESIGN CAPACITIES

CAUTION

**SP Manweb plc plant present in the vicinity of your site.
Use HSE Guidance notes HS (G) 47 and GS 6.
SPPS plans available on 0845 272 1212**

Appendix 1

Breakdown of Non–Contestable Charge (excluding VAT).

Charge for information on point of connection	£
Charge for design approval	£
Inspection & monitoring of contestable works (As specified in Statement of Charges) (Additional visits will be charged pro rata)	£
Witness of Testing (As specified in Statement of Charges)	£
Charge for connection to the network (Work as defined in quotation letter) (Major items specified separately)	£
Reinforcement Cost (Work as specified above) (Major items specified separately)	£
Diversionary cost (as specified above) (Major items specified separately)	£
Off site wayleaves and easements for work by SPPS	£

**FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE SEE THE STATEMENT OF CHARGES
(CONDITION 4 STATEMENT)**